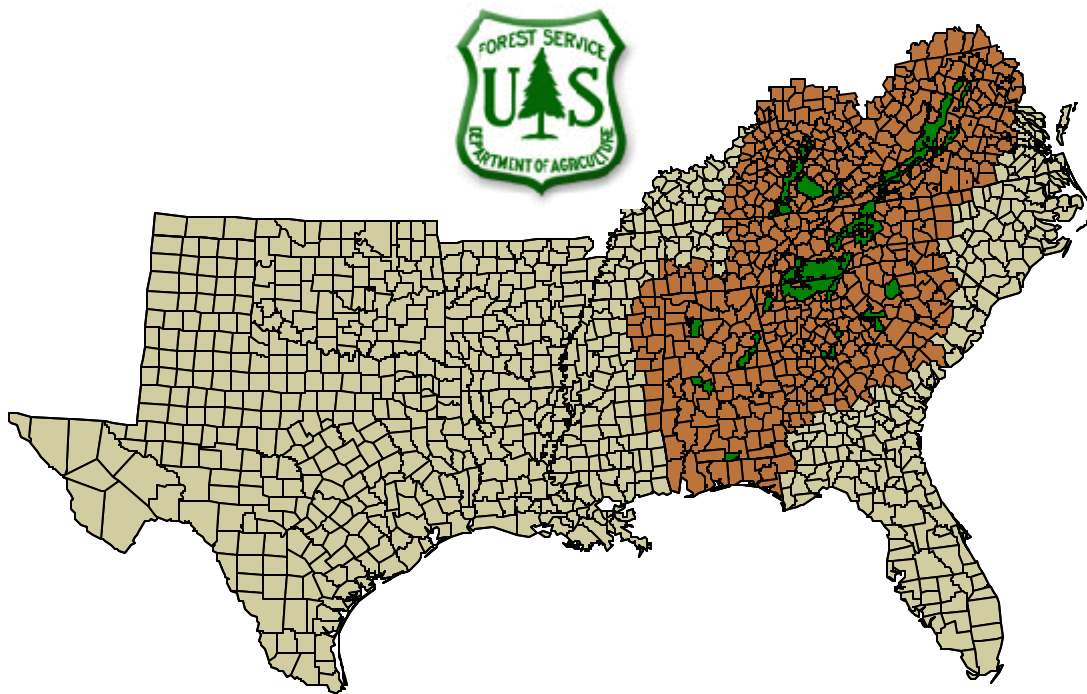

Public Survey Report

Southern Appalachian National Forests

Cherokee, Nantahala, & Pisgah National Forests

Web Series: SRS-4901-2002-2



**A Survey of Residents of the Greater
Southern Appalachian Region to Describe:
Public Use and Preferred Objectives for Southern
Appalachian National Forests**

July, 2002

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Public Use and Preferred Objectives for Southern Appalachian National Forests

Web Series: SRS-4901-2002-2

Prepared by:

Southern Region of National Forest Systems, FS

Paul Arndt, Natural Resource Planner

Clair Redmond, Regional Economist

Southern Research Station, FS

Ken Cordell, Project Leader

Carter Betz, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Gary Green, NSRE Manager

Shela Mou, Computer Assistant

University of Tennessee

Becky T. Stephens and J. Mark Fly,

Sr. Research Associate and Associate Professor, respectively

Human Dimensions Research Lab

Dept. of Forestry, Wildlife & Fisheries

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“Public involvement is not only required; it is the most essential component of successful national forest planning. It is for the public, as well as for the natural resources on our national forests, that plans are developed and thoughtfully implemented.” Ken Cordell, July 2002

PREFACE

Paul Arndt, Natural Resource Planner, Southern Regional Office, Atlanta GA

The National Forests in the Southern Appalachians have been involved in efforts to update or revise their Land and Resource Management Plans. In addition to inventorying and analyzing the natural resources of the Southern Appalachians, National Forest planners also need to understand the people who live in the Southern Appalachians and how they relate to the National Forests in this area. Planners need to understand what the public wants and expects from the National Forests and how natural resource management activities will affect the public's attitudes, beliefs, and lifestyles.

The Southern Appalachian Assessment (SAA), which was completed in 1996, attempted to answer five questions:

1. How have demographic changes near the forest affected natural resource management of the forest?
2. What, in turn, has been the impact of natural resource management on the economic and social status of local communities?
3. What has been the influence of publics outside the Southern Appalachians and their effect on management of ecosystems and public land?
4. What are the values and attitudes of southern Appalachian residents toward natural resources and ecosystem management?
5. What are the priorities for management of private land by non-industrial forest owners?

The information from the SAA, however, was regional. Planners need specific information about their "local" public. At a local level, much of the demographic information can be derived from published sources, such as U.S. Census data. However, there are few reference sources available that describe people's attitudes, beliefs and lifestyles at a local level. Since there is a lack of published data that addresses these crucial social dimensions at the local level, it was felt that an independent party should be contracted to find these answers.

National Forest Planners, the Regional Economist, and Social Scientists from the Southern Research Station compiled a number of questions designed to learn how people perceive natural resource management. The questions were divided into the following areas: 1) General information about the respondent, 2) Participation in activities overall and on National Forest lands, 3) Values of the respondent toward natural resource management in general, 4) Opinions about how the National Forest closest to the respondent should be managed, and 5) Concerns about various environmental issues in the Southern Appalachians.

Public responses to these questions provide national forest planners with 1) A comparison of attitudes, beliefs and values between the "regional" and "local" levels, 2) Information about basic controversial issues in forest planning that are shared by more than one national forest and, 3) Information about how the different management options (alternatives) being considered will impact the people who use and live near national forests.

During the forest planning process, numerous public meetings are held to allow attending interests an

opportunity to express their wants, needs and demands for access to and use of national forest resources. These public meetings, however, typically represent only a portion of the public's interests and seldom represent the so-called “silent majority” who do not or cannot attend these meetings. The survey results reported in this document provide input from this broader public concerning what they would like to see emphasized in national forest management.

THE SURVEY AND ITS OBJECTIVES

Ken Cordell, Senior Scientist, Southern Research Station, Athens GA

The Planning, Appeals and Litigation Unit of the Southern Regional Office of the Forest Service coordinates and assists the plan revision process for all national forests in the South. Plan revisions are required approximately every 10 years in order to be in compliance with the National Forest Management Act. Currently, plan revision is underway for the national forests in the Southern Appalachian Region of the South. Public input is a critical and required part of the plan revision process. As stated in the Code of Regulations based on the National Forest Management Act (36CFR219), an objective of public input as a required part of planning is to “Ensure that the Forest Service understands the needs, concerns, and values of the public”. This survey was undertaken to provide forest planners with a better understanding of the needs, concerns and values of the general public living in the Southern Appalachian (SA) Region. The planning unit of the Southern Region, along with the Southern Research Station (including the Southern Appalachian Cross Cutting Theme and the social science unit in Athens, Georgia) and the University of Tennessee sponsored and conducted this survey specifically for use in SA national forest plan revisions.

Public involvement is not only required, it is the most essential component of successful national forest planning. It is for the public, as well as for the natural resources on national forests, that plans are developed and thoughtfully implemented. Knowing what the public wants to emphasize in the management of national forests must be the foundation for revising plans. The planning unit in the Southern Regional Office assists forests as each seeks public input and involvement. The planning unit also assists in assessing resource conditions, policy effectiveness, and demands that cut across the national forests of the South. Forest planning and public input is required as a result of several Acts of Congress and their regulatory interpretations as follows:

1. The National Forest Management Act (NFMA) and NFMA implementation regulations (36 CFR 219)
2. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the NEPA implementation regulations (Council on Environmental Quality Regulations)
3. The Forest Service Appeal Regulations 36 CFR 215).

As a part of the public input process for plan revisions for the 13 national forests in the Southern Appalachians (SA), a survey of residents living within multi-county market areas surrounding SA national forests was initiated in the first half of 2002. A minimum of 400 residents within each SA national forest market area was randomly selected and interviewed. For this study, a market area for a forest includes all counties within 75 miles of any portion of the boundary of the forest. A subregion market area includes all the counties within the collective 75-mile market areas of multiple forests in a single state or forests otherwise in close proximity to one another. Thus, within subregion market areas, some counties will fall within more than one forest market area because of overlapping 75-mile forest market radii.

Overall, in the SA region, more than **5,200 people over the age of 16 years** were interviewed (see the Sampling and Analysis section that follows in this report). The general purpose of this surveying was to learn about the people who live near the national forests of the SAs and provide them the opportunity to

indicate what priorities they wish the Forest Service to adopt for the management of Southern Appalachian national forests over the next decade or more. The specific objectives were to collect data that describes residents’:

1. Household and personal characteristics
2. Participation in outdoor recreation activities
3. Recreational uses of SA National Forests
4. Relative importance of different values for which national forests could be managed
5. Relative importance of different objectives for national forest management
6. Position on different environmental issues of the SAs.

The results section of this report is organized around the above 6 objectives. First, salient findings from the survey are highlighted to provide an overview of significant observations. Second, the results for each objective are summarized in respectively numbered tables 1 through 6. For example, in Table 1, covering objective 1, summary percentages describing the characteristics of the respondents to the survey are shown. These range from percentages of respondents who are year-round residents to percentages who are retired. Each table describes residents within the market area of individual forests and within the combined market areas of forests in the same state or otherwise in close proximity. For comparison, percentages describing residents in the combined subregional market area for the three forests in North Carolina and Tennessee and for the Southern Appalachian Region overall are shown in the last 2 columns of most tables. Tables 2 and 4 include national percentages. The number of respondents for whom percentages are presented are shown in the column headings as N=xxxx. For example, for the Cherokee National Forest percentages, N = 2,352.

In addition to Results Highlights, Summary Tables and text pertaining to objectives 1 through 6, we also present in Tables 7 through 10 comparisons of responses by interviewed SA residents to questions asked for objectives 1 through 6. These comparisons are at the Southern Appalachian regionwide level to assure sufficient numbers of responses to questions by low frequency demographic categories. We also provide question-by-question summary percentages of responses to the survey by forest, subregion, and regional market areas in an Appendix to this report at the website address below. All data and electronic copies of this report are maintained by the Forest Service National Survey on Recreation and the Environment Research Group in Athens, Georgia, at: <http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends/sanfrpt.html> .

SAMPLING AND ANALYSIS

Overview of the Southern Appalachian Market Areas

The Greater Southern Appalachian (SA) region consists of 13 National Forests located in seven states of the Forest Service's Southern Region (R-8). These forests are managed by seven separate administrative units that correspond to the following states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia. The primary market area for each forest is defined as any county whose boundary was located within a 75-mile straight-line radius from any portion of the boundary of the national forest (a 1½ to 2-hour drive). These market areas cross state boundaries. In addition to these seven states, parts of six other states also make up the market areas of national forests in the SA region. These states include Florida, Maryland, Mississippi, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

The population of the 13 Southern states making up the Southern Region of the Forest Service is 91.1 million people, or 32.4 percent of the U.S. 2000 population of 281.4 million. The seven states with SA National Forests within them account for 42.1 million or 14.8 percent of the U.S. population. National Forest market areas were defined as multiples of proximate counties so that only a portion of most of the 13 states appear within the combined 75-mile market areas of Southern Appalachian forests. Alabama is the only state that appears entirely within the SA market area, along with majorities of GA, SC, NC, KY, TN, VA, and WV. Within the 13-state region, a total of 596 counties comprise the Greater SA market area (see map on front cover). The 2000 Census of population in the SA market area was 35.9 million, about 12.8 percent of the U.S. population. The population distribution of the market area by state is:

State	Population (Millions)	Percent
GA	6.835	19.0
VA	5.077	14.1
AL	4.447	12.4
NC	4.155	11.6
SC	2.811	7.8
TN	2.787	7.8
MD	2.475	6.9
KY	2.283	6.4
OH	1.703	4.7
WV	1.500	4.2
FL	0.858	2.4
MS	0.554	1.5
PA	0.422	1.2
Total	35.907	100.0

Almost one-fifth of the SA market area population is in Georgia, largely due to the presence of the Atlanta metropolitan area. Nearly three-quarters (72 percent) of the population is in the seven states where the SA national forests exist. Among the other six states that are part of the market area coverage, Maryland has the largest population due to the proximity of the Baltimore and Washington, DC

metro areas to the George Washington National Forest.

Many of the SA counties were located in the market area of more than one national forest. Of the 596 counties, 40 percent were located in the market area of a single national forest, but 25 percent were in the market area for 2 forests and 35 percent were located in the market area for 3 or more national forests. This is readily apparent given the proximity of some forests to each other, especially the Chattahoochee, Cherokee, Nantahala, and Pisgah. As a result, the market area sample size varies by forest, ranging from a low of 504 for the Conecuh, which is the most distant of any single forest to other forests, to 2,361 for the Chattahoochee which is proximate to a number of other forests. A quota of completed interviews was established to ensure a minimum sample size of at least 400 for each forest. The number above this minimum represents counties that were located in more than one forest's market area, where more than one wave of sampling occurred.

Sampled counties were identified for each national forest by including any county whose boundary was located within 75 miles of any of the forest's boundaries. This established the sampling universe for each forest. Within this group of counties, telephone numbers were selected using random-digit-dialing with interviews continuing until the minimum quota of 400 were completed (see the next section for more details on telephone interviewing procedures). Later, after all interviewing was finished, the market area samples were constructed by including *all* completed interviews from within the market area of each forest, *regardless* of which forest for which a respondent was initially selected in the quota sample of 400. A total of 5,222 interviews of individuals in the SA region were completed: 13 forests * 400 minimum per forest + 22 additional interviews where the quota was slightly exceeded. Since many interviews were included in the market area of more than one national forest, the sum of market area sample sizes exceeds 5,222. Sample sizes for each forest market area (see the maps following that depict each forest in your market area):

National Forest	Market Area Sample Size
Chattahoochee	2,361
Cherokee	2,352
Nantahala	2,080
Pisgah	1,704
Sumter	1,655
Talladega	1,655
Jefferson	1,403
Oconee	1,366
Daniel Boone	1,056
Bankhead	706
Tuskegee	702
George Washington	584
Conecuh	504

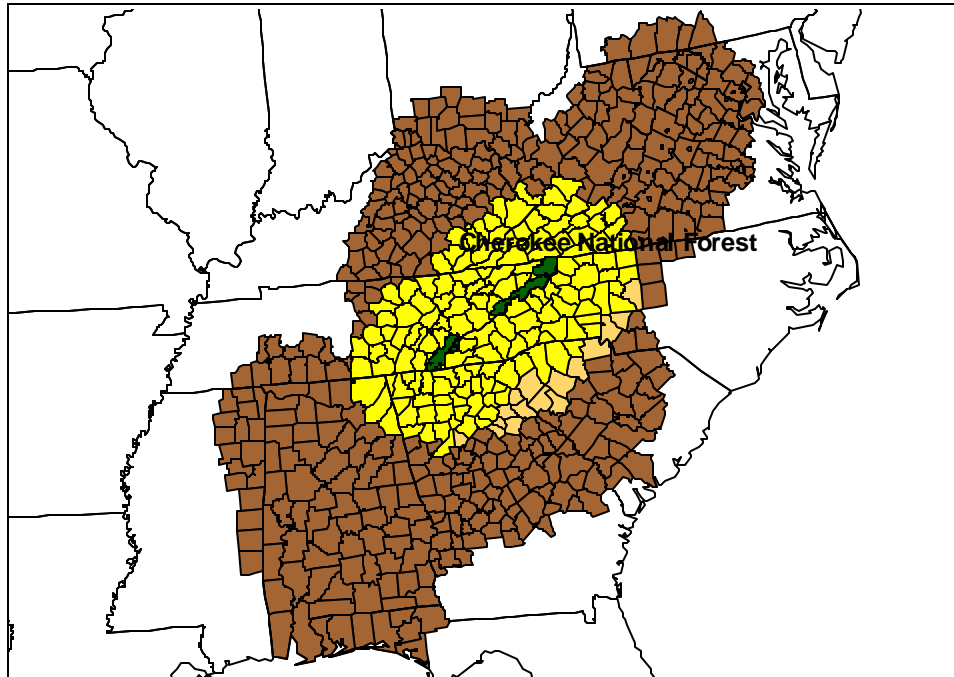


Figure 1. – Cherokee National Forest in green, Cherokee’s market area in yellow, the subregion includes the yellow and light orange areas, and the rest of the Southern Appalachian Market area is represented by the brown.

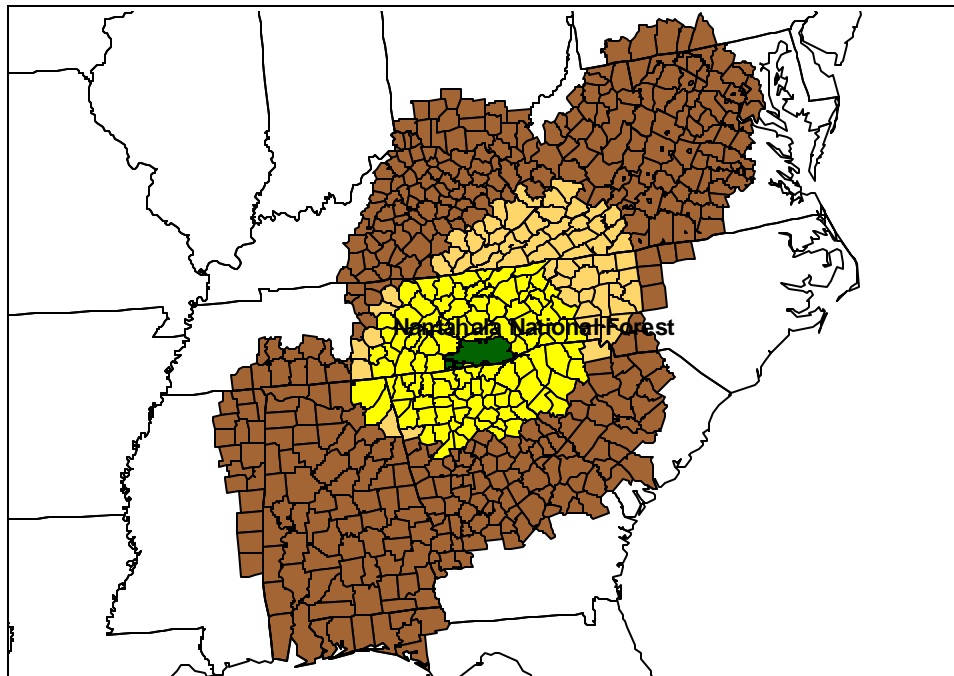


Figure 2. – Nantahala National Forest in green, Nantahala’s market area in yellow, the subregion includes the yellow and light orange areas, and the rest of the Southern Appalachian Market area is represented by the brown.

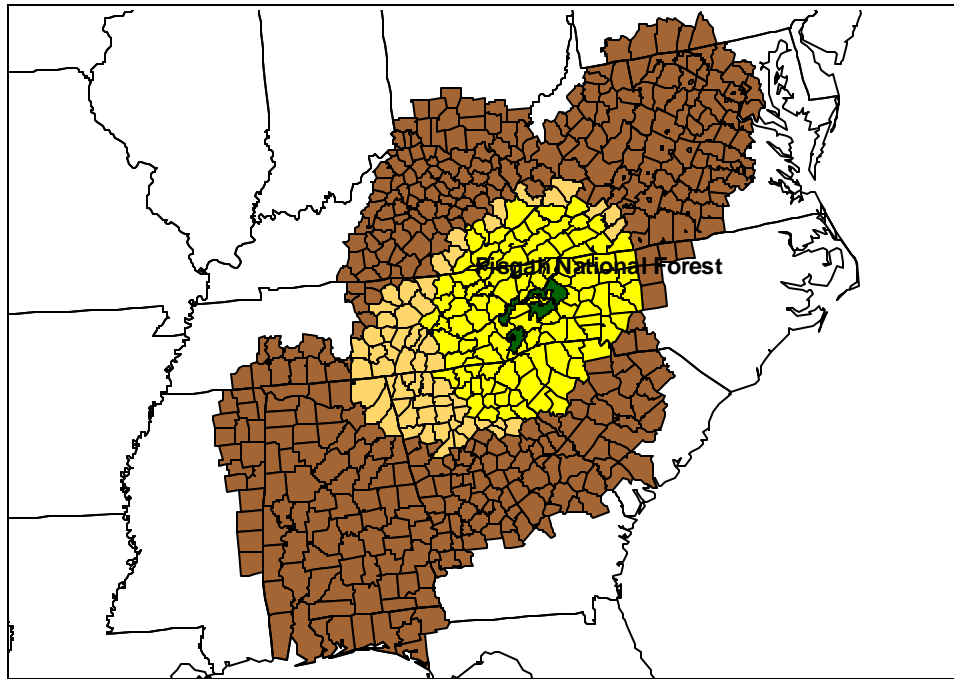


Figure 3. – Pisgah National Forest in green, Pisgah's market area in yellow, the subregion includes the yellow and light orange areas, and the rest of the Southern Appalachian Market area is represented by the brown.

Characteristics of the Market Area Samples

The following table shows some basic demographic descriptors for each of the national forest market area samples.

National Forest	% male	% white	% under age 30	% over age 55	% lifelong residents	% lived in county <=10 years	% <\$25k annual income	% >\$100k annual income
Bankhead	41.9	75.7	25.6	29.3	41.3	24.1	33.5	7.1
Conecuh	46.9	62.4	29.1	31.0	38.6	24.7	31.3	5.2
Talladega	44.4	61.2	30.4	25.3	36.1	33.4	29.4	10.5
Tuskegee	45.7	58.6	32.2	28.5	44.5	28.0	36.4	7.8
Chattahoochee	47.1	72.5	28.1	25.8	34.6	33.0	25.5	10.9
Oconee	49.1	59.3	30.9	21.8	28.9	39.8	22.3	13.1
Cherokee	47.8	80.5	25.7	27.9	37.6	29.0	28.5	9.2
Daniel Boone	45.9	90.9	22.5	34.0	44.4	22.3	33.8	7.0
G.Washington	50.6	72.2	24.7	27.1	39.6	27.7	28.2	11.4
Jefferson	47.6	88.1	24.0	29.2	44.7	23.4	33.7	6.2
Nantahala	48.3	76.8	26.3	27.6	34.6	32.3	26.4	10.1
Pisgah	48.7	84.6	24.9	30.0	41.4	25.2	30.2	7.4
Sumter	49.5	74.7	26.8	26.3	36.4	31.2	24.5	10.6

There is a fairly significant range of percentages across forests for each of the demographic characteristics in the above table. The proportion of white residents ranges from roughly 60 percent in the Alabama and Georgia Piedmont forests to more than 90 percent in the Daniel Boone. Relatively large percentages of people in the Tuskegee, Talladega, and Oconee market areas are under 30, probably reflecting proximity to major universities. The Daniel Boone is among the highest in the percentages of people over age 55 and who are lifelong residents. The Oconee market area is the lowest in both of those characteristics. The opposite is true for these forests in the percentage of more recent residents (less than 10 years). The Daniel Boone is also high in percentage in the lower income category, along with the Alabama forests and the Jefferson National Forest in southwest Virginia. The Oconee and George Washington National Forests have the largest percentages of upper income respondents, perhaps due to their proximity to affluent suburbs of Atlanta and Washington, DC, respectively.

Telephone Survey Instrument

The information in this report was gathered in a special application of the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE). Instead of a national sample, however, interviewing was restricted to residents of the 596 SA region market area counties. The NSRE is the 8th and most recent in the series of national recreation surveys that began in 1960. Each survey through the years has asked about participation in a core set of outdoor recreation activities, as well as socio-demographic information about the respondent. Because of the necessity of limiting telephone interviews to 20 minutes or less, there is a fairly small window of time to include questions about other recreation and environmental issues and concerns. For this reason, the NSRE is split into different versions, with each version covering different sections or modules of questions in addition to the core participation and demographics. The modules that appeared in the special SA version of the NSRE include:

C Recreation participation

(Interviewees were asked about the activities they had participated in during the last 12 months regardless of where that participation occurred. The standard list of activities used in NSRE was used in this survey application.)

C National Forest visitation and activity participation on the forest

(Interviewees are asked only about visiting those forests in which they live within the 75-mile market area. Activities on the forest are asked *only* for the forest they visited most often, or about the only forest if they visited just one.)

C Values in National Forest management

(Respondents are asked their opinion on a 5-point Likert scale about the importance of 13 broad themes of national forest management.)

C National Forest management objectives

(Respondents are asked their opinion on a 5-point Likert scale about the importance of 26 more specific national forest management actions. Each person received a random set of 13 of the 26 items due to time considerations.)

C Environmental attitudes

(Respondents are asked their opinion on a 5-point Likert scale about their level of agreement with 5 general statements about environmental issues not directly related to national forest management.)

C Rural land ownership

(Respondents are asked about their rural land holdings of parcels 5 acres or larger.)

Telephone Interviewing Procedures

Telephone numbers for phone interviewing were obtained from Survey Sampling, Inc (SSI), a Connecticut-based telephone sampling firm. SSI ensures that listed exchanges are currently valid and provides a random-digit-dial sample using a phone number database of working blocks. A block is a set of 100 contiguous numbers identified by the first two of the last four digits of each number (e.g., for number 559-4200, 42 is the block).

These working blocks are entered into a computer-aided telephone interviewing system (CATI). Once the CATI system has randomly selected and dialed a telephone number, the interviewer, upon hearing someone answer, identifies the survey, its main purpose, and the name of the research laboratory. The interviewer then asks how many people in the household are 16 years or older, and asks to speak to the person 16 or older who had the most recent birthday. This technique is used to randomly select an interviewee within the household since it has been shown that women tend to disproportionately answer the telephone. Upon reaching an appropriate person and receiving agreement to be interviewed, the interviewer then reads the survey questions as they appear on the computer screen. Using a computer to control the progression of the survey, skip patterns are executed as programmed, data entry occurs as the survey is being administered, responses are screened to assure they are within range, and missing data problems are corrected. If no person is contacted or an answering machine picks up the call, the interviewer enters a code (e.g., busy, no answer). If the timing of the call is inconvenient, a call back is scheduled for another date and time.

Weighting the Data

Random-digit-dialing reaches a random sample of telephone numbers, but not necessarily representative random sample of people. Affluent families are virtually certain to have a telephone number, often more than one. But many low-income households do not have a telephone. As a result, people with higher incomes are likely to be somewhat over represented in the survey sample. Another possible source of bias that may exclude some people from participating is the language barrier. This version of the NSRE for the SA region was conducted only in English, so any non-English speakers were unfortunately excluded. Further, a perfectly random draw of potential respondents does not necessarily guarantee a perfectly representative sample. For whatever reason, some people refuse to participate in the interview. The resulting data set of completed interviews must then be examined to see how closely it approximates the true population characteristics as reported by the Census.

Sufficient differences are typically found between the sample and the Census to require adjustments for over- or under-sampling of different socioeconomic groups or strata. This is referred to as “weighting” the data. Weighting was achieved using a composite to account for age, race, sex, education, and urban/rural differences. This composite weighting helps adjust the estimates of recreation participation and other NSRE questions to better represent what those estimates would have been had the sample been truly proportionately distributed.

This type of weighting procedure is referred to as *post-stratification*. It is the most widely accepted method for adjusting sample proportions to mirror population distributions. For the NSRE, a total of 60 strata (6 age x 2 sex x 5 race) were identified to match identical strata in the U.S. Census. Census proportions were obtained for only the 596 SA counties rather than using national figures. Each individual strata weight, SW_p , is the ratio of the Census population proportion to the NSRE sample

proportion:

$$Sw_i = P_i / p_i$$

where P_i = U.S. Census proportion for strata i
 p_i = NSRE 2000 sample proportion for strata i

A weight $Sw_i > 1.0$ indicates that the particular strata was a smaller proportion of the sample than of the SA region population. Likewise, weights with a value less than 1.0 indicated that the strata was randomly sampled in greater numbers than their proportion in the SA region. A unitary weight, that is, no adjustment, means the sample strata was sampled at the same rate as its proportion of the population. Each individual respondent was assigned to one and only one of the 60 age-sex-race strata.

We took an additional step to account for the sampling proportions of two other socioeconomic strata: educational attainment and place of residence (rural/urban). Weights for each of these were calculated separately in a similar fashion to the age-sex-race weight. The education weight, EW_i , is the ratio of Census: sample proportions for 9 different levels of educational attainment, ranging from “8th grade or less” to “Doctorate Degree.” SA region education data were not available, so national proportions were used. The residence weight, Rw_i , is simply the ratio of the percentage of the SA region living either in metropolitan statistical areas or not divided by their counterparts in the NSRE data. A single weight, W_i , for each individual survey respondent is the product of the three intermediate weights:

$$W_i = Sw_i \times EW_i \times Rw_i$$

The largest composite weights, therefore, were applied to respondents whose numbers were underrepresented in the sample, either due to their age/sex/race strata, education, place of residence, or some combination of the three. The smallest weights were applied to strata which were overrepresented. The sample had a potential total of 1,080 (60 age/sex/race * 9 education * 2 urban/rural) unique weights.

Question-by-Question Summary

Refer to the appendix of this report to see a copy of the telephone survey instrument with question wording as it was read to the respondents, along with instruction to the interviewers that were not read. Questions that are indented indicate that these were only asked if the respondent answered the required way in the previous question. These are referred to as ‘contingency questions’ and were skipped if the interviewee did not qualify based on his or her previous answer. Beside each question is printed the percentage of interviewees who answered each of the possible responses. Including “don’t know” responses and “refusals”, the sum of percentages for all possible responses should equal 100. The percentages reported here are post-weighted, that is they reflect adjustments made to the data to correct for disproportionate sampling.

RESULTS

Results Highlights

- Little difference in the characteristics of the Nantahala, Pisgah, and Cherokee national forest resident populations exists between market areas of different forests, or for that matter between the forest, subregion and Southern Appalachian market areas. Most people live year round in these market areas (97% to 98%), leaving only 2 to 3 percent as seasonal residents. Between 35 and 41 percent had lived in these areas their entire lives. The Pisgah market had slightly higher proportions of lifelong and long-term residents, people over 55, and retirees.
- About 80 percent of area residents are non-Hispanic White, 15 percent are Black, and around 3 percent are Hispanic. Between 1 and 2 percent are foreign born. About 60 percent work a job, while about 40 percent are retired.
- Among the 20 activities included in the survey of SA residents, the most popular are driving for pleasure (almost 3/4 participate in the combined subregion), viewing and photographing wildlife, fish or scenery (61% participate), picnicking (59%), day hiking (43%) and visiting a wilderness or other primitive area (42%). General recreation participation patterns are very similar among the three forests.
- Other popular activities include swimming (38%), fishing (35%), gathering natural products (27%), motorboating/waterskiing (27%), developed camping (26%), and off-road driving (24%). Bicycling on trails or in the backcountry, rafting or other river running, primitive site camping, and hunting were among the activities participated in by fewer people. Percentages participating in these activities are mostly in the middle to lower teens.
- More than half of respondents in the Cherokee market area said they had visited the forest at least once in the past. The proportions were considerably smaller for the Nantahala and Pisgah. The Nantahala's percentage (30%) may be influenced by the relatively large proportion of Georgia residents in its sample. Cherokee had the highest percentage of respondents who had either *only* visited that forest or had visited more than one but visited Cherokee the most. This may indicate that it serves more of a 'local' market than the other two forests. Of people who had visited the national forests at least once in the past, the Pisgah and Nantahala had larger percentages of people who made 2 or more visits in the past 12 months.
- Of persons reporting they had visited one of these forests one or more times in the last 12 months, the most frequently reported activity was driving for pleasure, followed by viewing and photographing wildlife/fish/scenery, picnicking, visiting wilderness or other primitive areas, hiking, swimming, and gathering natural products. There was considerable variation in activity preferences among the three forests. Pisgah visitors were much more likely to participate in backcountry activities such as backpacking, visiting a wilderness or primitive area, or primitive camping. The Nantahala was by far the most prominent in non-motorized water-based activities such as rafting/tubing and swimming. No real patterns emerged for the Cherokee, though it did have the highest percentages for developed camping and motorboating/waterskiing.
- The national forests in NC/TN are valued by residents in many different ways. At the top, they are viewed as important for protecting sources of clean water, followed by their importance in passing along natural forests for future generations, providing protection for wildlife and habitat, providing

places that are natural in appearance, and protection of rare or endangered species.

- The values most often emphasized in the management of national forests, i.e., outdoor recreation and timber, are in the second or lower ½ of the list of values.
- The people who reside in the areas near the NC/TN national forests clearly put ecosystems and naturalness above utilitarian objectives in the management of these national forests. This hierarchy of priorities is highly consistent with the Natural Resources Agenda developed for the Forest Service over the past few years.
- Residents of the Southern Appalachians seem to have become more concerned about the environment and more supportive of further protecting it over the last several years. They would support more environmental regulation.

Results by Objective

Personal and Household Characteristics

Highlight—About 80 percent of area residents are non-Hispanic White, 15 percent are Black, and around 3 percent are Hispanic. Between 1 and 2 percent are foreign born. About 60 percent work a job, while about 40 percent are retired.

Table 1 presents estimates of the percentages of persons 16 or older fitting various personal and household profiles who live in the forest, subregion, and Southern Appalachian Region market areas. For this study, a forest market area includes all counties within a 75-mile radius of the boundary of the forest. A subregion market area includes all the counties within the combined 75-mile radii of the forests covered by this report. Note that some counties fall within more than one forest market area because of overlapping 75-mile forest market radii.

As with a number of studies done to look at characteristics of persons living in regions such as the Appalachians, it is notable that little difference exists between market areas of different forests, or between the forests and the Southern Appalachian region. Most people live year round in those market areas (97% to 98%), leaving only 2 to 3 percent being seasonal residents. For all three national forests—Cherokee, Nantahala, and Pisgah—about one-third of their sample respondents were from Tennessee. The Nantahala, however, had even more respondents from Georgia (39%). North Carolina residents comprised 31 percent of the Pisgah sample but only 20 percent of the Cherokee's. Georgia residents were the second largest group in the Cherokee sample at 29 percent. For the three forests combined, more than three-fourths of the sample lived in Georgia (31%), Tennessee (27%), or North Carolina (20%).

About 36 percent of respondents in the combined forests subregion have lived in the SA region their entire lives. By forest this ranged from a low of 35 percent in the Nantahala to a high of 41 in the Pisgah. Similarly, 56 percent of Pisgah residents have lived in the region 20 or more years compared to 51% for the Cherokee and 48 percent for the Nantahala (percentages which include those who have lived there all their lives). More than 31 percent of the combined forests had lived in the SA region less than 10 years, however, indicating a fairly mobile population with a large contingent of recent immigrants. Each of the forests had a majority (about 53 percent) who remain in the region because of family ties. Very few, around 6 percent, remain for their job and about 15 percent remain because of attachment to the area

itself.

Rural land ownership varies slightly among the three forests. About 16 percent of the Cherokee and Pisgah samples owned 5 or more acres with the Nantahala trailing slightly (14%). Each forest was very close to the subregion proportion of 26.5 percent under age 30. The same is true for the percentage over age 55. The Pisgah market area (30%) was the only forest more than 1% different from the subregion's 27 percent. Considering that we surveyed only persons age 16 and older, it is notable that most are of the sample is between the ages of 30 and 55. About 4/5 of the combined forests market area are non-Hispanic White (Pisgah highest at 87%), 15 percent are Black (Pisgah lowest at 10%), and around 3 percent are Hispanic. Less than 2 percent are foreign born in each market area. Around 8 percent have less than a high school education and about 21 percent have a college degree (Nantahala highest at 23%). In each market area, close to 60 percent work a job while over 40 percent are retired (Pisgah slightly higher at 44%). Typically, areas surrounding NFs are viewed as attractive because of the natural and scenic amenities National Forests and other natural lands offer. These are popular as retirement locations.

Table 1. – Percentage of local residents 16 or older by personal or household characteristic by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Personal and Household Characteristics	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appalachian Region
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)		
Year-round resident	97.6	97.6	97.7	97.6	97.2
Part-time resident	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.8
Percentage of residents in market area by state	TN 31.0	GA 39.3	TN 34.2	GA 31.1	GA 24.2
	GA 28.8	TN 32.9	NC 31.3	TN 27.3	AL 21.4
	NC 19.8	SC 15.0	SC 19.6	NC 19.9	TN 14.3
Lived in SA entire life	37.6	34.6	41.4	36.0	38.1
Lived in SA 20+ years	51.2	47.5	55.6	49.4	51.7
Lived in SA 10-19 years	19.7	20.1	19.2	19.4	19.0
Lived in SA <10 years	29.0	32.3	25.2	31.2	29.3
Remain for job	6.3	5.8	5.8	6.1	7.4
Remain for family	53.8	53.3	53.3	54.0	54.8
Remain for area	14.8	14.9	14.2	14.9	14.6
Remain for other reasons	25.0	25.9	26.8	25.0	23.2
Own 5+ acres of land	15.8	13.9	16.5	14.7	13.1
Age under 30	25.7	26.3	24.9	26.5	27.2
Age over 55	27.9	27.6	30.0	27.1	27.3
Anglo, non-Hispanic	82.8	79.0	86.9	79.7	74.5
Black	12.1	15.8	10.2	15.3	19.7
Hispanic	3.3	3.4	1.8	3.2	3.6
Foreign born	1.8	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.8
Education - 8 th grade or less	8.6	8.6	8.7	8.3	7.3
Education - Bachelor's degree/more	20.0	22.6	18.1	21.3	21.0
Work a job	58.5	58.6	58.2	59.6	59.9
Retired	41.2	41.4	44.3	40.7	39.5

¹ Source: National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, Version 12, November, 2001 to April, 2002.

Participation in Outdoor Recreation Activities

Highlight--Among the 20 activities included in the survey of SA residents, the most popular are driving for pleasure (almost 3/4 participate in the combined subregion), viewing and photographing wildlife, fish or scenery (61% participate), picnicking (59%), day hiking (43%) and visiting a wilderness or other primitive area (42%). General recreation participation patterns are very similar among the three forests.

Table 2 presents the percentages of persons 16 years or older living within the western North Carolina and Tennessee National Forest market areas who participate in the outdoor recreation activities listed. Also shown are subregion, SA region and national percentages for comparison. The activities listed are not all forms of outdoor activity, but are those that national forests are particularly well suited for and those which in large part depend on a natural and particularly forested environment or setting. Very little differences exist among the participation patterns of the three forest market areas and most activities are close to the participation rates in the full SA region.

Among the 20 activities shown in Table 2, driving for pleasure (about 3/4 participate), viewing and photographing wildlife, fish or scenery (about 60%), picnicking (just under 60%), day hiking and visiting a wilderness or other primitive area (both roughly 2-in-5 participate) are the most popular. Driving for pleasure in each market area is very close to the full SA participation rate, but is considerably higher than the national rate of 50 percent. Wildlife viewing and photography is very similar in each market area to the SA and national rates, but visiting a wilderness or primitive area is about 3 percentage points higher than the SA rate and a full 10 percent greater than the national rate. Picnicking and day hiking participation is also greater in each forest market area than they are both regionally and nationally. As with visiting wild areas, the day hiking rate is a full 10 percentage points higher than the national rate.

More than 1/3 of the surveyed residents in each market area participated in the water-based activities of swimming and fishing. Activities in which about 1/4 of residents participate include gathering forest products such as mushrooms, berries, etc. (28%), motor boating and water skiing (26%), developed site camping (26%), and driving motorized vehicles off road (24%). The motorized activities of boating and off-road driving are at about the half-way point of the list of 20 activities in popularity. Of these four activities, only off-road driving differs significantly from its national participation rate (17%).

Highlight--Bicycling on trails or in the backcountry, rafting or other river running, primitive site camping, and hunting were among the activities participated in by fewer people. Percentages participating in these activities are mostly in the middle to lower teens.

Activities for which participation is in the teens include primitive site camping (17%), bicycling on trails or backcountry (16%), rafting or other river running (16%), and hunting (14%). Hunting is somewhat more popular in the three forest market areas than it is nationally, but the biggest difference is with rafting and other floating. The rafting participation rate in the combined forests subregion is nearly twice that of the nation (19% versus 10%). This is not surprising due to the presence of several tourist destination whitewater rivers. Despite the presence of high profile mountain biking areas in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee, participation in the subregion (16%) lagged behind the national rate by about 5 percentage points.

Rounding out the list of activities that residents of the NC/TN markets participate in are

canoeing/kayaking (11%), backpacking (11%), horseback riding (10%), and small game and waterfowl hunting (8%). Each of these mirrored very closely not only the SA region participation rates, but also the national rates. The only slight exception is horseback riding which at about 10 percent in the combined forests subregion was about 2 percentage points higher than its national participation rate.

Table 2. – Percentage of local residents 16 or older who participate in each outdoor recreation activity by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians, 2002

Recreation Activity Participated in Past 12 months	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appalachian Region	National
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)			
Driving for pleasure	74.7	74.6	76.5	73.9	72.1	50.3
View/photograph wildlife, fish, or scenery	60.3	61.6	61.5	61.3	58.3	59.2
Picnicking	58.4	58.6	60.4	58.6	54.7	54.9
Day hiking	43.1	42.6	44.2	42.7	37.1	32.4
Visit a wilderness or undeveloped roadless area	42.5	43.2	42.4	42.3	39.2	32.0
Swimming in streams/ lakes/ponds	38.3	38.4	39.1	37.9	36.4	39.9
Fishing	34.5	33.7	36.4	34.5	34.4	29.3
Gather mushrooms or other natural product	27.6	26.6	27.8	27.1	27.4	28.6
Motorboating/waterskiing	26.1	27.3	28.2	26.9	25.7	25.6
Camp at a developed site	26.4	25.5	27.5	26.3	25.2	26.4
Drive off-road	24.4	22.9	24.8	23.9	24.0	17.4
Camp at a primitive site	20.1	19.0	20.0	19.1	17.3	15.9
Rafting/tubing/floating on rivers or flowing water	18.8	18.7	18.6	18.7	16.4	9.6
Bicycling/mountain biking on trails or backcountry	16.0	15.9	14.7	16.2	16.2	21.3
Hunting	12.5	11.9	13.8	12.3	14.2	11.1
Backpacking on trails/ cross-country	11.2	11.4	10.9	11.1	9.1	10.4
Canoeing/kayaking	10.3	11.0	10.3	10.8	10.6	11.5
Hunting big game	9.8	9.0	10.7	9.7	11.7	8.4
Horseback riding on trails	9.6	9.2	9.8	9.5	10.0	7.8
Hunting small game or waterfowl	8.1	8.0	9.4	8.0	8.9	7.7

Source: National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, Version 12, November, 2001 to April, 2002.

Visits to and Recreation Activities on the National Forests

Highlight--More than half of respondents in the Cherokee market area said they had visited the forest at least once in the past. The proportions were considerably smaller for the Nantahala and Pisgah. The Nantahala's percentage (30%) may be influenced by the relatively large proportion of Georgia residents in its sample.

Table 3 provides statistics describing the recreation visits and activities by market area residents to the three national forests that make up this report. Of residents 16 or older, just over half of market area residents had ever visited the Cherokee NF (53%), compared to 36 percent for the Pisgah and 30 percent for the Nantahala. One reason the Cherokee is higher is probably due to the fact that Tennessee residents make up 27 percent of the sample of the combined forests subregion versus 20 percent North Carolina residents (see Table 1). The Nantahala's sample, made up of 39 percent Georgians, appears to have a lot of overlap with the samples of other national forests, particularly the Chattahoochee in north Georgia. The Nantahala and Pisgah had very small proportions of respondents who had only visited those forests. This proportion was much higher for the Cherokee market (13.5%), but still only about 1/4 of the percent who said they had ever visited. This indicates that the Cherokee probably serves a larger share of local visitors than either the Pisgah or Nantahala, but does not mean that it is characterized primarily by local visitors. Spillover use from visitors to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park assures this.

The proportion of people who had visited more than one national forest in the past year but had visited the forest asked about the most was also highest for the Cherokee (17%). Of people who said they had ever visited the Cherokee, about 57 percent of these said it was the either the only national forest they had visited or it was their most visited forest. The same proportions were 48 percent for the Pisgah and 29 percent for the Nantahala. This also indicates that the Cherokee likely serves a higher proportion of 'local' visitors.

Highlight--the most frequently reported activity was driving for pleasure, followed by viewing and photographing wildlife/fish/scenery, picnicking, visiting wilderness or other primitive areas, hiking, swimming, and gathering natural products.

Of residents who had visited the national forests in Table 3 at any time in the past, between 18 and 25 percent had not visited the national forest listed in the last 12 months. This implies somewhat different visitation patterns among the three forests. The Pisgah had more frequent visits than the other two forests in that 63 percent of people who had visited it had gone 2 or more times in the last 12 months. Of people who had visited the Nantahala in the past, 55 percent had visited it 2 or more times in the previous 12 months. This same rate was 49 percent for the Cherokee. So even though a higher percentage said they had ever visited the Cherokee, this did not necessarily mean it had more recent visits or more repeat visits than the other two forests.

Of persons reporting they had visited one or more times in the last 12 months, the most frequently reported activity was driving for pleasure followed by viewing and photographing wildlife/fish/scenery, hiking, picnicking, and visiting a wilderness or other primitive area. Participation rates were highest for visits to the Pisgah NF for every activity. Differences were greatest between the Pisgah and Cherokee. Hiking and visiting a wilderness/primitive area were the two activities with the largest differences between these forests. These differences are no doubt dependent on the types of opportunities each

forest offers. Primitive camping and backpacking were also substantially more popular on the Pisgah. The Nantahala had the highest participation rates for gathering natural products, horseback riding, and especially swimming, and rafting/tubing. The latter two activities are undoubtedly influenced by the presence of the Nantahala Outdoor Center and other outfitters. Only two activities—developed camping and motorboating/waterskiing—had their highest participation on the Cherokee NF. Fishing participation was essentially the same (about 15%) on each of the forests.

Table 3. – Percentage of local residents 16 or older having visited the national forest and activity participation by forest, 2002

Forest Visitation	Cherokee NF (N=2352)	Nantahala NF (N=2080)	Pisgah NF (N=1704)
Ever visited this National Forest	52.5	30.3	36.3
Visited ONLY this NF	13.5	2.1	4.2
Visited >1 NFs but visited this one most	16.5	6.7	13.4
Number of visits to this NF in past 12 months			
0	24.9	23.8	18.2
1	25.3	21.4	18.8
2-4	33.3	42.3	38.2
5 or more	16.5	12.5	24.8
Participated in at this National Forest			
Camped - developed	16.6	14.9	13.1
Camped - primitive	6.7	6.7	15.5
Gathered natural products	10.9	21.1	15.6
Driving for pleasure	71.7	64.0	78.0
Visit wilderness area	33.6	44.1	44.8
Off-road driving	10.6	7.9	11.8
Horseback riding	2.4	4.2	2.7
Hunt small game/waterfowl	2.8	1.3	2.9
Big game hunting	2.8	2.1	3.9
Motorboating/waterskiing	5.4	2.4	2.4
Backpacking	4.9	8.2	13.9
Bicycle/mountain biking	4.8	2.4	5.4
Picnicking	45.8	50.6	51.6
Hiking	29.9	38.0	51.8
View wildlife/scenery	54.2	66.5	67.6
Fishing	15.3	15.4	15.4
Canoeing/kayaking	2.0	16.0	3.5
Rafting/Tubing	6.1	22.3	7.0
Swimming	13.4	26.8	16.1

Values of National Forests

Highlight--The national forests in NC/TN are valued by residents in many different ways. At the top, they are valued for protecting sources of clean water, followed by their importance in passing along natural forests for future generations, providing protection for wildlife and habitat, providing places that are natural in appearance, and protection of rare or endangered species.

Natural resources, public lands and national forests in particular are very important to the American people. The national forests in western North Carolina and Tennessee are valued by residents in that state and surrounding states in many different ways. It is extremely important to know which values are viewed as most important and which are viewed as least important by the people in the forest and subregion market areas. There was very little difference regarding national forest values in the three market areas (percentages in this section refer to the “Combined Forests Subregion” in Table 4). Table 4 lists 13 values starting at the top with the one which the most people thought to be important, national forests “protect sources of clean water” (95%). Next highest percentages indicating importance were “maintain the forests in good condition for future generations” (93%), “provide protection for wildlife and habitat (89%), protection of trees to “emphasize healthy forests” (89%), “leave forest area natural in appearance” (88%), and “protect rare or endangered species” (84%).

Of the top values in Table 4, two stand out. These are the values that to over 80 percent of persons in the forest and subregion market areas are not only important but are extremely important. Between 86 and 89 percent of residents in the market areas and in the Southern Appalachians generally place national forests very high on the list for the protection they offer sources of clean water. These percentages are actually slightly higher than the same national forest value viewed by people nationally. Between 84 and 87 percent place national forests high on their list for the opportunity they offer to pass along natural forests in good condition to future generations. These percentages too are higher than the national percentages for this same value.

Highlight--The values most often emphasized in the management of national forests, i.e., outdoor recreation and timber, are in the second or lower ½ of the list of values.

The values lowest on the list by percentages indicating them to be important include managing national forests as: “sources of raw materials and products to support local industries and manufacturing” (36%), “sources of grazing range for livestock” (43%), and “helping local tourism businesses (54%). These priorities on values are highly consistent with priorities voted on by residents throughout the SA region and residents throughout the country.

Those values most often emphasized in the management of national forests, i.e., outdoor recreation and timber are in the second or lower ½ of the list of values evaluated by survey respondents. Clean water, future generations, wildlife, and forest health are the highest priorities by the tax paying, stock-holding public.

Table 4. – Percentage of local residents 16 or older indicating the stated value is important and percentage indicating extremely important to emphasize in management of the national forest, by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians.

Forest Value	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appa- lachian Region	National
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)			
Protect sources of clean water	94.8/87.3	95.2/87.7	95.0/88.7	94.9/87.6	94.0/86.3	94.1/82.7
Maintain for future generations	93.1/85.1	92.4/84.4	93.9/86.6	92.8/84.7	92.7/83.7	92.5/80.4
Provide protection for wildlife	88.9/74.1	89.3/74.9	90.4/76.5	89.4/74.8	88.8/72.4	88.0/69.4
Emphasize healthy forests	88.3/71.7	88.5/70.7	90.4/73.7	88.7/71.5	87.7/70.5	n/a
Leave them natural in appearance	88.6/71.2	87.9/70.3	88.9/72.5	87.9/70.4	85.9/68.6	85.6/64.3
Protect rare or endangered species	83.6/71.1	83.7/71.8	84.9/72.6	83.8/71.3	83.1/69.7	84.7/67.1
Provide information and educational services	80.0/56.7	79.7/55.0	81.3/57.2	80.0/56.1	80.1/55.9	79.1/52.5
Provide natural places for personal renewal	77.1/55.4	76.2/54.5	78.9/58.2	76.8/55.2	75.8/54.2	73.9/49.1
Provide outdoor recreation	73.2/47.0	72.5/44.8	74.8/48.4	73.2/46.8	74.1/47.8	73.4/44.8
Provide abundant timber supply	71.5/53.0	70.3/52.1	72.6/53.8	71.4/52.9	72.3/54.8	77.7/57.6
Help local tourism businesses	54.1/33.1	52.0/31.2	55.7/35.5	54.1/33.2	57.3/36.0	56.0/31.1
Permit grazing of livestock	42.5/25.1	41.2/23.5	43.5/25.7	42.9/25.1	45.2/26.5	49.8/28.0
Provide raw materials and products for local industries	35.1/20.2	34.1/19.4	36.3/21.7	35.9/20.7	38.7/22.3	45.1/24.9

Source: National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, Version 12, November 2001 to April 2002.
National percentages are from NSRE Version 6 and 7, September 2000 to March 2001.

Management Objectives Important in Management of National Forests

Highlight--The people who reside in the areas near the NC/TN national forests clearly put ecosystems and naturalness above utilitarian objectives in the management of these national forests. This hierarchy of priorities is highly consistent with the Natural Resources Agenda developed for the Forest Service over the past few years.

Table 5 lists 26 objectives of which all or any portion of which could be emphasized in the management of national forests in western North Carolina and Tennessee. The top 7 concerning which over half of the residents in the three national forest market areas indicated to be extremely important were as follows (differences in the three forests are very slight so percentages in this section refer to the combined forests subregion):

- Protect areas that are the sources of water, such as streams, lakes and watershed areas (80% extremely important)
- Protect areas that are important wildlife habitats (74%)
- Protect old growth forests and allow natural processes to continue into the future (68%)
- Manage the forests to provide habitat for wildfire and birds for people to see and photograph (62%)
- Allow different groups such as Native Americans to continue cultural uses of the forests (52.9%)
- Use controlled fires on national forest lands to reduce the threat of wildfires or to improve wildlife habitat conditions (52.5%)
- Restrict mining, oil drilling, and other mineral removals (51%)

The order of these top seven management objectives was nearly identical to the top seven for the full SA region. The only exception, which was very slight, is the reversed position of cultural uses and controlled fires in the SA region. The proportion who said 'extremely important' was slightly higher (by only about 1.0 percentage point on average) in the three forest market areas for each of the management objectives with the exception of using controlled fires.

The lowest 7 objectives by percentage who voted them extremely important are as follows in order from least to greater importance:

- Allow commercial leasing of oil and gas rights (11% extremely important)
- Allow recreational gold prospecting and dredging (12%)
- Expand access for motorized off-highway vehicles (12%)
- Allow harvesting and mining to support local industries (19%)
- Expand commercial recreation services (19%)
- Provide new paved roads for cars (19%)
- Allow trading of public for private lands (23%)

All of the bottom ranked objectives are utilitarian uses of the national forests and 3 of the 7 are extractive. Two of these lowest ranked objectives pertain to motorized uses, on and off highway motor vehicles. Four of the seven are predominantly commercial uses.

Clearly, residents of the market areas the western North Carolina and Tennessee national forests put ecosystems and naturalness above utilitarian objectives in the management of these national forests. This hierarchy of priorities is highly consistent with the Natural Resources Agenda developed for the Forest

Service over the past few years.

Table 5. – Percentage of local residents 16 or older indicating the stated management objective is important and percentage indicating extremely important by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians

Forest Management Objective	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appalachian Region
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)		
Protect streams, lakes, and watershed areas	93.0/79.2	93.0/79.6	94.5/80.2	93.3/80.2	91.9/79.2
Protect wildlife habitats	91.0/74.5	91.0/73.6	91.4/74.7	91.2/74.0	89.9/72.7
Protect old growth forests	86.0/67.4	86.3/67.6	87.3/68.5	86.3/67.9	85.3/66.2
Habitat for wildlife and bird viewing	84.9/61.4	84.2/61.5	86.7/64.8	84.9/62.2	84.0/61.4
Allow cultural uses of forests	75.3/53.3	73.9/50.5	76.3/55.2	75.2/52.9	72.5/51.3
Open areas for wildlife	75.8/49.7	72.9/47.9	76.5/49.6	74.5/48.7	73.9/48.4
Use controlled fires	74.3/53.4	72.6/50.3	74.6/56.6	73.9/52.5	74.5/53.2
Trail systems for non-motorized recreation	71.3/41.0	69.9/40.6	71.1/39.9	71.0/40.2	68.7/39.5
Designate more areas as wilderness	67.3/42.0	68.4/42.5	67.4/41.8	68.4/41.7	67.1/41.4
Restrict mineral removals	66.5/51.6	66.5/50.2	66.9/52.5	66.5/51.1	64.1/48.6
Increase law enforcement	68.0/48.2	63.8/44.7	68.0/47.6	66.4/46.8	67.8/48.2
Increase acres in the National Forest	66.4/44.8	65.3/43.7	64.5/43.3	66.2/44.7	65.2/44.1
Allow diversity of uses such as grazing, recreation, and wildlife habitat	63.9/36.8	64.7/35.8	65.6/38.4	64.8/37.5	65.0/36.6
Make management decisions at the local level	64.2/35.9	63.2/34.5	66.8/40.0	64.0/35.8	63.8/37.1
Allow recreation fees that go back to management	59.3/33.8	59.8/33.6	61.2/36.5	59.2/33.9	58.6/32.9
Allow management activities near streams	59.6/33.8	56.8/31.1	61.1/35.3	58.1/32.8	60.9/35.5
Limit people who visit wilderness	49.8/26.4	51.1/27.2	50.8/27.7	50.6/27.0	48.0/26.2
Limit people on a river at one time	48.1/27.7	49.5/29.7	47.9/26.6	49.1/28.8	47.2/28.8

Table 5. (Continued) – Percentage of local residents 16 or older indicating the stated management objective is important and percentage indicating extremely important by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians

Forest Management Objective	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appalachian Region
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)		
Trade public for private lands to eliminate in-holdings or acquire natural areas	45.4/23.2	45.7/22.6	48.0/25.4	45.7/23.4	44.8/22.9
Increase wildlife for hunting	44.4/25.0	41.3/24.2	46.6/27.7	43.9/25.3	46.6/27.8
Allow harvesting and mining to support communities	33.7/18.5	32.4/16.5	36.0/21.0	34.5/18.6	36.2/20.1
Expand commercial recreation services	34.6/19.1	31.1/17.8	33.5/18.3	34.2/18.9	36.3/20.2
New paved roads for cars	31.3/19.5	30.3/17.8	34.0/20.4	32.0/19.3	34.5/20.0
Allow recreational gold prospecting and dredging	23.1/12.0	23.2/12.6	23.8/12.8	22.7/12.3	24.2/11.7
Expand access for motorized off-highway vehicles	22.7/12.4	21.5/11.7	23.7/13.2	22.6/12.4	22.8/13.1
Allow commercial leasing of oil and gas rights	18.6/11.2	17.6/10.0	20.5/12.2	18.7/11.1	19.7/11.6

Source: National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, Version 12, November 2001 to April 2002.

Trends in Positions on Southern Appalachian Environmental Issues

Residents of the NC/TN national forest market areas were asked to state their agreement or disagreement with 5 statements of environmental position related to issues in the Southern Appalachians. With some small amount of modification, these 5 items are taken from the resident population survey done for the Southern Appalachian Assessment in 1995. From highest to the lowest level of agreement, these 5 items or issues are listed in Table 6. Consistent with findings presented in Tables 4 and 5, people in the market areas of the three national forests and throughout the Southern Appalachians agree that natural habitat protection, development controls and strengthening the Endangered Species Act are most important. Utilitarian uses, i.e., trout fishing and extractive commercial uses, they agree, are of lesser importance.

The primary reason for repeating the Southern Appalachian environmental issues in this survey was to see if there had been trends since the mid-1990s in environmental positions. Responses to the items in that earlier survey are shown in parentheses in the Southern Appalachian Region column in Table 6. These percentages (in parentheses) should be compared with the first percentage above, which is the overall percentage agreeing with the environmental issue statement. Across the 5 issues, it appears that residents of the Southern Appalachians have become more concerned about the environment and supportive of doing more to protect it. Compared with the 1995 results, a higher percentage now indicate that protection of streams for trout and other recreational fishing is more important than protection for non-game aquatic species. But this percentage is still less than ½ of resident respondents, indicating a very consistent pattern of support for managing public and private forests in ways the keep and improve their health. The exact wording of the questions summarized in Table 6 can be found in the Appendix to this report.

Table 6. – Percentage of local residents 16 and older agreeing and strongly agreeing with each of 5 environmental statements by forest, subregion, and regionwide in the Southern Appalachians.

Forest Management Objective	Forests			Combined Forests Subregion	Southern Appalachian Region
	Cherokee (N=2352)	Nantahala (N=2080)	Pisgah (N=1704)		
Critical homes for plant and animal species should be protected	94.5/70.0	94.7/70.8	95.2/72.8	94.6/71.0	93.3/69.3 (72.5%)
More controls on tourism and second home development	77.3/44.3	78.4/45.4	77.7/45.9	77.5/45.0	75.8/43.4 (40.0%)
Endangered Species Act has not gone far enough	74.5/42.7	74.6/44.2	74.5/43.2	74.7/43.6	73.5/42.4 (57.5%)
More important to protect streams for trout than for other species	49.9/24.4	48.8/23.6	52.1/26.2	49.6/24.2	49.6/23.1 (29.3)
More timber production, mining, and other commercial uses	25.4/8.4	24.9/7.9	25.8/8.8	25.8/8.9	28.2/10.1 (26.6%)

Source: National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, Version 12, November 2001 to April 2002.

Comparison of results by personal or household characteristics

In this section, responses to the questions summarized in tables 2, 4, 5 and 6 are compared between different population strata. This comparison is made between all respondents in the Southern Appalachian region, not by each individual forest. The comparisons include:

- Year-round vs. part-time residents
- Persons having lived in the SAs 20 or more years vs. those having lived in the SAs less than 10 years
- Persons moving to or staying in the SAs because of the attractiveness of the region vs. those who moved or stayed in the region for other reasons
- Owners of rural land of 5 or more acres vs. non-owners
- Non-Hispanic whites vs. all others
- Persons having a Bachelors or higher degree vs. all others with less education
- Persons working vs. those retired

Results of comparing percentages between these pairs of strata follow below.

Table 7, differences in participation in outdoor activities—There are a number of important differences in participation percentages between social strata. These include:

- With the exception of backpacking, primitive site camping, wilderness use, big-game hunting, and off-road motor vehicle use, greater percentages of year-round residents of the SAs participate in the 20 activities listed. The differences are modest except for picnicking and camping at developed sites where much larger percentages of year-round residents participate in these activities.
- With the exception of picnicking, gathering natural products, hunting and driving off road, larger percentages of persons having lived in the SAs less than 10 years than persons living there 20 or more years participate in the activities listed. Especially notable differences include day hiking, backpacking, visiting wilderness, viewing and photographing nature, canoeing/kayaking and swimming.
- For 13 of the 20 activities listed, persons who moved to or stayed in the SA region because of its attractiveness were more active than those who moved or stayed for other reasons. This difference is especially pronounced for mountain biking, day hiking, visiting wilderness, wildlife viewing, and driving for pleasure. Differences in the remaining activities were slight.
- Differences in activity participation were very pronounced for those who own rural land of 5 or more acres versus those who do not. Landowners participated at much higher percentages for every one of the 20 activities, some at more than 1.5 times the rate. This no doubt reflects in part the additional recreation opportunities available to rural landowners. Hunting, off-road driving, horseback riding on trails, and primitive camping were especially more popular among landowners.
- The white, non-Hispanic population was more active than non-whites in each of the activities. Differences were especially large in motorboating/waterskiing, hunting, swimming and day hiking.
- Persons whose educational attainment was less than a bachelor's degree were considerably more active in hunting (especially big game), fishing, and off-road driving, and to a smaller degree in primitive camping and gathering natural products. People with a bachelor's degree or more education participated at higher rates in all other activities, especially day hiking, mountain biking, and canoeing/kayaking.
- People who reported that they work full or part-time were significantly more active than retirees in all activities, with the exception of driving for pleasure. The difference in many activities was very large, with more than double the participation rate among working persons. The lower percentages for

retirees is no doubt related to their advanced age relative to individuals who work.

Table 7. – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, who participate in each outdoor recreation activity region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Recreation Activity	SA Region	Year-round residents	Part-time residents	20+ year residents	<10 year residents	Stay/ moved here due to attractive area	Stay/ moved here for other reasons
Driving for pleasure	72.1	72.3	64.9	73.5	72.4	75.4	71.5
View/photograph wildlife, fish, or scenery	58.3	58.4	54.0	55.0	61.6	62.0	57.6
Picnicking	54.7	55.2	36.1	55.6	53.2	55.7	54.5
Visit a wilderness or undeveloped roadless area	39.2	39.1	42.7	34.5	44.1	42.6	38.6
Day hiking	37.1	37.3	31.4	33.6	40.8	40.5	36.5
Swimming in streams/ lakes/ponds	36.4	36.5	33.6	28.9	41.3	37.0	36.3
Fishing	34.4	34.5	32.3	33.9	34.1	36.2	34.1
Gather mushrooms or other natural product	27.4	27.5	24.3	27.8	26.6	29.7	27.0
Motorboating/ waterskiing	25.7	25.8	21.7	23.0	26.8	28.2	25.3
Camp at a developed site	25.2	25.6	13.2	23.7	25.8	23.2	25.6
Drive off-road	24.0	23.9	26.7	23.8	22.9	23.5	24.1
Camp at a primitive site	17.3	17.3	18.5	14.2	19.7	18.7	17.1
Rafting/tubing/floating on rivers or flowing water	16.4	16.5	14.4	11.5	19.0	15.2	16.6
Bicycling/mountain biking on trails or backcountry	16.2	16.3	14.6	12.1	19.8	19.7	15.6
Hunting	14.2	14.3	13.6	15.5	11.8	13.4	14.4
Hunting big game	11.7	11.7	11.9	12.9	9.4	10.3	11.9
Canoeing/kayaking	10.6	10.6	9.0	6.3	14.2	10.6	10.6
Horseback riding on trails	10.0	10.1	6.6	8.0	10.9	11.1	9.8
Backpacking on trails/ cross-country	9.1	8.9	13.8	6.3	11.8	10.3	8.9
Hunting small game or waterfowl	8.9	8.9	6.7	9.6	6.3	8.4	8.9

Table 7. (continued) – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, who participate in each outdoor recreation activity region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Recreation Activity	SA Region	Own rural land	Do not own rural land	White, non-hispanic	Non-white, includes hispanic	Bachelors degree or more education	Less than a bachelors degree	Working	Retired
Driving for pleasure	72.1	82.6	70.5	76.1	61.3	78.8	70.3	76.5	70.1
View/photograph wildlife, fish, or scenery	58.3	69.2	56.6	62.8	46.4	70.3	55.1	63.3	51.3
Picnicking	54.7	61.0	53.8	57.5	47.3	63.3	52.4	57.7	48.6
Visit a wilderness or undeveloped roadless area	39.2	56.5	36.6	43.5	28.0	47.2	37.1	44.8	23.8
Day hiking	37.1	49.4	35.3	42.7	22.3	50.3	33.6	41.9	25.8
Swimming in streams/ lakes/ponds	36.4	46.6	34.9	41.9	21.8	39.6	35.6	42.8	13.3
Fishing	34.4	50.0	32.0	36.8	28.0	29.9	35.6	37.7	25.0
Gather mushrooms or other natural product	27.4	42.0	25.2	29.8	21.2	26.1	27.8	30.2	19.9
Motorboating/ waterskiing	25.7	36.0	24.2	30.4	13.2	30.5	24.4	30.7	14.3
Camp at a developed site	25.2	32.0	24.2	28.1	17.7	26.5	24.9	29.2	14.5
Drive off-road	24.0	44.5	20.9	26.2	18.2	19.6	25.2	28.0	12.5
Camp at a primitive site	17.3	30.3	15.4	19.7	11.1	15.0	17.9	20.8	5.7
Rafting/tubing/floating on rivers or flowing water	16.4	21.5	15.7	19.0	9.7	20.0	15.5	19.7	4.8
Bicycling/mountain biking on trails or backcountry	16.2	21.1	15.5	16.6	15.2	22.8	14.5	18.9	7.0
Hunting	14.2	28.9	12.0	16.2	9.1	10.9	15.1	17.1	10.0
Hunting big game	11.7	25.3	9.6	13.6	6.6	7.7	12.7	14.5	7.2
Canoeing/kayaking	10.6	16.3	9.7	11.7	7.6	17.6	8.7	13.3	3.2
Horseback riding on trails	10.0	17.6	8.8	11.2	6.6	10.7	9.8	12.4	3.1
Backpacking on trails/ cross-country	9.1	14.7	8.2	9.8	7.2	13.3	8.0	10.9	2.8
Hunting small game or waterfowl	8.9	19.4	7.3	10.3	5.0	7.3	9.3	11.5	4.4

Table 8, differences in opinions about National Forest Management Values—There were a number of important differences in values of national forests among the social strata.

- Differences were modest between year-round and part-time residents overall, with the exception that year-round residents were somewhat more supportive of providing outdoor recreation, places for personal renewal, and helping local tourism businesses.
- Percentages were very similar between long-term (20+ years) and shorter-term residents for many of the value items. There were noticeable differences, however, in greater support among long-term residents for the more extractive values such as timber supply, minerals and raw materials, grazing, and tourism business. Short-term residents were most different in their greater support for rare and endangered species.
- Responses are almost identical between individuals who moved to or stayed in the SA region because of its attractiveness, as compared to those who moved to or stayed for other reasons. The only differences of more than 2.0 percentage points were greater support for tourism businesses and grazing permits by people who moved or stayed for reasons besides the SA area's attractiveness.
- Persons who do not own rural land assigned slightly more importance to providing outdoor recreation, helping tourism businesses, and grazing permits. Otherwise, more rural landowners said each of the remaining items were important than did non-landowners, but the percentage differences were relatively small. Landowners were most different in their desire to maintain forests for future generations, leave them natural in appearance, and providing places for personal renewal.
- The most apparent difference between whites and non-whites was that more of the latter group assigned importance to the commodity values of raw materials and products, grazing permits, and tourism businesses. More whites favored adequate timber supply. Whites also were more supportive of amenity values such as clean water, forest health and natural appearance. Outdoor recreation was viewed similarly by both groups, although more non-whites said it was 'extremely important.'
- Similar to non-whites, lesser educated individuals favored the commodity values more than those with a college degree or more. This was especially true for grazing permits, but also for tourism businesses, raw materials, and timber supply. Differences in the more amenity-based values were very slight, although the percentages were larger for more educated people on all of these.
- Similar patterns emerged for retirees as opposed to working people. Retired individuals assigned more importance to only three items, each a commodity-based value: timber supply, raw materials and products, and tourism businesses.

Table 8. – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, indicating the stated value is important and percentage indicating extremely important to emphasize in management of the National Forest, region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Forest Value	SA Region	Year-round residents	Part-time residents	20+ year residents	<10 year residents	Stay/ moved here due to attractive area	Stay/ moved here for other reasons
Protect sources of clean water	94.0/ 86.3	94.0/ 86.5	91.8/ 79.8	93.1/ 86.5	95.1/ 85.9	95.2/ 87.3	93.8/ 86.1
Maintain for future generations	92.7/ 83.7	92.6/ 83.8	95.8/ 80.4	91.7/ 83.3	92.9/ 83.2	94.2/ 85.1	92.4/ 83.4
Provide protection for wildlife	88.8/ 72.4	88.7/ 72.4	89.0/ 72.3	87.7/ 73.7	89.2/ 69.8	89.5/ 74.4	88.6/ 72.1
Emphasize healthy forests	87.7/ 70.5	87.7/ 70.6	89.4/ 69.7	87.7/ 73.0	87.0/ 67.3	89.1/ 73.0	87.5/ 70.1
Leave them natural in appearance	85.9/ 68.6	85.8/ 68.6	88.5/ 67.3	84.1/ 70.3	87.7/ 66.8	86.2/ 72.2	85.8/ 68.0
Protect rare or endangered species	83.1/ 69.7	83.1/ 69.6	83.2/ 72.0	79.9/ 66.4	86.3/ 72.3	82.8/ 70.4	83.2/ 69.6
Provide information and educational services	80.1/ 55.9	80.0/ 56.0	82.2/ 54.5	80.2/ 58.6	79.8/ 54.1	81.7/ 58.3	79.8/ 55.5
Provide natural places for personal renewal	75.8/ 54.2	76.0/ 54.5	70.9/ 44.7	76.8/ 56.7	74.2/ 50.9	75.7/ 55.4	75.9/ 54.0
Provide outdoor recreation	74.1/ 47.8	74.3/ 48.0	66.3/ 39.4	75.6/ 53.1	72.9/ 42.1	74.2/ 47.7	74.1/ 47.8
Provide abundant timber supply	72.3/ 54.8	72.4/ 54.8	69.2/ 53.4	75.6/ 60.5	69.0/ 49.5	72.0/ 55.5	72.4/ 54.7
Help local tourism businesses	57.3/ 36.0	57.4/ 36.2	51.5/ 30.2	62.8/ 43.2	51.7/ 28.1	54.3/ 34.9	57.8/ 36.2
Permit grazing of livestock	45.2/ 26.5	45.3/ 26.7	41.7/ 21.5	47.4/ 30.6	41.3/ 22.5	42.6/ 25.0	45.7/ 26.8
Provide raw materials and products for local industries	38.7/ 22.3	38.8/ 22.4	35.0/ 16.7	40.3/ 25.9	35.8/ 17.7	37.2/ 21.8	38.9/ 22.3

Table 8. (continued) – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, indicating the stated value is important and percentage indicating extremely important to emphasize in management of the National Forest, region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Forest Value	SA Region	Own rural land	Do not own rural land	White, non-hispanic	Non-white, includes hispanic	Bachelors degree or more education	Less than a bachelors degree	Working	Retired
Protect sources of clean water	94.0/ 86.3	96.2/8 9.1	93.6/ 85.9	95.0/ 87.4	91.2/ 83.5	96.3/85.1	93.4/86.6	95.3/87.7	91.1/ 84.4
Maintain for future generations	92.7/ 83.7	96.0/8 8.7	92.2/ 82.9	95.0/ 86.6	86.7/ 75.8	94.9/83.0	92.1/83.8	94.3/85.7	88.4/ 79.2
Provide protection for wildlife	88.8/ 72.4	91.7/7 7.7	88.3/ 71.6	90.2/ 74.2	84.9/ 67.8	90.5/69.7	88.3/73.1	90.6/73.9	82.1/ 68.4
Emphasize healthy forests	87.7/ 70.5	90.2/7 4.8	87.4/ 69.9	89.9/ 71.8	82.1/ 67.3	89.7/66.6	87.2/71.6	89.2/71.1	83.8/ 68.9
Leave them natural in appearance	85.9/ 68.6	89.3/7 3.1	85.4/ 67.9	88.9/ 72.0	77.9/ 59.6	89.1/68.5	85.0/68.6	88.7/71.0	78.7/ 64.7
Protect rare or endangered species	83.1/ 69.7	84.9/7 2.7	82.9/ 69.2	84.2/ 70.5	80.3/ 67.6	84.1/65.6	82.9/70.8	85.0/72.2	74.0/ 59.1
Provide information and educational services	80.1/ 55.9	83.9/6 0.6	79.5/ 55.2	80.8/ 55.9	78.2/ 56.2	80.1/50.6	80.1/57.4	81.7/55.4	74.5/ 55.4
Provide natural places for personal renewal	75.8/ 54.2	80.6/6 2.5	75.1/ 52.9	77.6/ 55.7	71.1/ 50.2	76.5/50.7	75.6/55.1	76.6/54.9	72.7/ 52.7
Provide outdoor recreation	74.1/ 47.8	72.8/4 6.5	74.3/ 48.0	74.1/ 47.2	74.1/ 49.3	71.8/39.2	74.7/50.1	74.5/46.3	71.6/ 52.2
Provide abundant timber supply	72.3/ 54.8	77.0/6 0.0	71.6/ 54.0	73.3/ 55.0	69.7/ 54.2	68.5/47.1	73.4/56.8	72.5/54.5	74.3/ 61.5
Help local tourism businesses	57.3/ 36.0	54.0/3 5.4	57.8/ 36.1	55.0/ 33.7	63.3/ 42.1	50.7/24.3	59.0/39.1	55.1/33.1	63.7/ 45.1
Permit grazing of livestock	45.2/ 26.5	42.3/2 6.5	45.7/ 26.5	44.1/ 25.2	48.2/ 30.1	34.2/15.0	48.2/29.6	44.7/25.9	42.2/ 27.1
Provide raw materials and products for local industries	38.7/ 22.3	38.1/2 2.2	38.8/ 22.3	36.7/ 20.7	43.9/ 26.3	31.5/14.8	40.6/24.2	36.8/20.6	39.0/ 26.0

Table 9, Opinions about National Forest Management Objectives

- Opinions about forest management objectives—which are more specific prescriptions as compared to the more general forest management values—showed no real patterns between year-round and part-time residents. Three items that stand out are more support from part-timers for cultural use of forests, expanded commercial recreation services, and recreational gold prospecting.
- Shorter-term (less than 10 years) residents were more supportive than long-term residents (20+ years) by 5 or more percentage points on only one management objective: restricting minerals removals. By contrast, long-term residents were considerably more supportive of 8 of the 26 management items, among them increased wildlife for hunting, increased law enforcement, increased off-highway vehicle access, and support for multiple-use management and decision-making at the local level.
- Differences between people who moved or stayed in the SA region because of its attractiveness versus those who moved or stayed for other reasons were very small across the board. Only two items had a 5 percent or more difference, with more support from the ‘other reasons’ group for each: creating open areas for wildlife and allowing harvesting and mining activities to support local economies.
- There were also few substantive differences (5+ %) between rural landowners and non-landowners. Landowners were more supportive of increased wildlife populations for hunting while more non-landowners preferred expanded commercial recreation services, increased law enforcement, and more recreational gold prospecting opportunities.
- Opinions were stronger in favor of 8 management items for non-white respondents compared to just one item for white individuals. The remaining items were very similar between the two groups. Whites more strongly supported only increased wildlife populations for hunting. Non-white were more supportive of 4 items especially: new paved roads for cars, expanded commercial recreation services, harvesting and mining to support local economies, and increased recreational gold prospecting opportunities.
- Educational attainment appears to be more of a factor in opinion about management objectives than any other strata. Half of the 26 items were more strongly supported (by 5+ percentage points) by people with less than a bachelor’s degree and there were no items favored appreciably more by more educated individuals. The 3 items of greatest difference were: new paved roads for cars, allowing management activities near streams, and increased law enforcement.
- A good deal of difference of opinion existed between working and retired persons. Retired people were more supportive by 5+ points of 5 management items while working people preferred 9 management prescriptions by that margin. The largest disparities were paving more roads for cars favored most by retirees and increasing the acreage of the national forest by working persons.

Table 9. – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, indicating the stated management objective is important and percentage indicating extremely important to emphasize in management of the National Forest, region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Forest Management Objective	SA Region	Year-round residents	Part-time residents	20+ year residents	<10 year residents	Stay/ moved here due to attractive area	Stay/ moved here for other reasons
Protect streams, lakes, and watershed areas	91.9/ 79.2	92.2/ 79.4	83.7/ 70.3	92.1/ 82.0	92.7/ 76.6	91.4/ 80.3	92.0/ 79.0
Protect wildlife habitats	89.9/ 72.7	89.7/ 72.5	96.0/ 79.1	88.9/ 72.8	91.9/ 71.5	92.0/ 76.1	89.5/ 72.1
Protect old growth forests	85.3/ 66.2	85.3/ 66.4	83.5/ 56.6	84.1/ 66.7	86.8/ 65.0	87.4/ 69.3	84.9/ 65.6
Habitat for wildlife and bird viewing	84.0/ 61.4	84.0/ 61.6	84.7/ 53.3	84.6/ 65.7	84.6/ 57.0	85.9/ 63.9	83.7/ 60.9
Use controlled fires	74.5/ 53.2	74.3/ 53.2	82.3/ 52.3	73.6/ 56.9	76.5/ 49.2	71.1/ 51.5	75.2/ 53.5
Open areas for wildlife	73.9/ 48.4	73.7/ 48.6	80.6/ 42.0	72.1/ 49.8	74.2/ 43.2	67.5/ 48.0	75.0/ 48.5
Allow cultural uses of forests	72.5/ 51.3	72.2/ 51.0	85.4/ 61.5	72.2/ 52.9	73.2/ 51.9	69.4/ 49.4	73.1/ 51.6
Trail systems for non-motorized recreation	68.7/ 39.5	68.7/ 39.6	69.4/ 36.2	67.9/ 43.3	66.2/ 35.3	68.1/ 42.9	68.8/ 38.9
Increase law enforcement	67.8/ 48.2	67.8/ 48.3	65.6/ 45.9	71.5/ 52.7	64.6/ 44.5	68.5/ 46.2	67.7/ 48.5
Designate more areas as wilderness	67.1/ 41.4	67.0/ 41.1	69.6/ 53.0	64.6/ 40.9	69.6/ 40.4	69.2/ 45.7	66.7/ 40.6
Increase acres in the National Forest	65.2/ 44.1	65.3/ 43.9	62.3/ 50.1	63.5/ 43.8	65.9/ 42.7	68.4/ 49.3	64.7/ 43.2
Allow diversity of uses such as grazing, recreation, and wildlife habitat	65.0/ 36.6	64.9/ 36.5	67.6/ 41.6	68.7/ 41.4	59.9/ 31.7	62.4/ 38.2	65.4/ 36.4
Restrict mineral removals	64.1/ 48.6	64.0/ 48.6	69.4/ 48.6	61.5/ 48.5	67.5/ 49.5	68.2/ 51.1	63.4/ 48.2
Make management decisions at the local level	63.8/ 37.1	63.8/ 36.8	61.9/ 48.3	68.3/ 43.6	60.5/ 31.4	66.9/ 37.6	63.3/ 37.0

Forest Management Objective	SA Region	Year-round residents	Part-time residents	20+ year residents	<10 year residents	Stay/ moved here due to attractive area	Stay/ moved here for other reasons
Allow management activities near streams	60.9/ 35.5	60.8/ 35.3	65.8/ 42.1	61.8/ 39.2	57.9/ 30.8	57.7/ 33.4	61.4/ 35.9
Allow recreation fees that go back to management	58.6/ 32.9	58.5/ 32.6	62.6/ 42.9	58.6/ 36.0	57.1/ 30.1	59.9/ 35.5	58.4/ 32.4
Limit people who visit wilderness	48.0/ 26.2	48.3/ 26.4	35.4/ 19.9	49.2/ 28.4	45.8/ 22.6	49.7/ 30.4	47.7/ 25.5
Limit people on a river at one time	47.2/ 28.8	47.1/ 28.8	52.5/ 30.8	48.4/ 31.3	47.1/ 27.2	48.6/ 30.8	46.9/ 28.5
Increase wildlife for hunting	46.6/ 27.8	46.8/ 28.0	41.6/ 21.1	51.6/ 33.1	40.2/ 21.9	47.3/ 29.0	46.5/ 27.5
Trade public for private lands to eliminate in holdings or acquire natural areas	44.8/ 22.9	45.0/ 23.0	39.2/ 20.3	44.2/ 24.9	44.1/ 21.8	45.7/ 25.7	44.6/ 22.4
Expand commercial recreation services	36.3/ 20.2	35.9/ 19.9	50.8/ 28.1	42.1/ 26.4	31.7/ 14.7	32.1/ 19.1	37.0/ 20.3
Allow harvesting and mining to support communities	36.2/ 20.1	36.3/ 20.1	29.5/ 20.3	39.4/ 23.6	30.3/ 14.4	31.4/ 16.0	37.0/ 20.8
New paved roads for cars	34.5/ 20.0	34.4/ 19.7	35.8/ 28.6	38.6/ 25.1	29.0/ 15.7	32.3/ 18.1	34.8/ 20.3
Allow recreational gold prospecting and dredging	24.2/ 11.7	23.9/ 11.5	35.0/ 20.4	25.1/ 13.1	21.3/ 9.5	21.5/ 9.8	24.7/ 12.1
Expand access for motorized off-highway vehicles	22.8/ 13.1	22.9/ 13.2	16.8/ 7.5	27.1/ 17.7	17.0/ 8.4	19.5/ 11.0	23.3/ 13.4
Allow commercial leasing of oil and gas rights	19.7/ 11.6	19.8/ 11.7	15.8/ 8.5	21.1/ 13.6	17.4/ 8.8	20.0/ 10.4	19.6/ 11.9

Table 9. (continued) – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, indicating the stated management objective is important and percentage indicating extremely important to emphasize in management of the National Forest, region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Recreation Activity	SA Region	Own rural land	Do not own rural land	White, non-hispanic	Non-white, includes hispanic	Bachelors degree or more education	Less than a bachelors degree	Working	Retired
Protect streams, lakes, and watershed areas	91.9/ 79.2	91.4/7 8.3	92.0/7 9.3	92.9/ 79.0	89.6/ 79.7	95.1/78.1	91.1/79.4	93.2/78.8	89.8/ 80.6
Protect wildlife habitats	89.9/ 72.7	90.9/7 5.2	89.7/7 2.3	90.7/ 73.4	87.5/ 70.5	90.3/65.1	89.8/74.7	91.2/73.0	84.6/ 68.7
Protect old growth forests	85.3/ 66.2	85.5/6 9.2	85.2/6 5.7	85.3/ 66.1	85.1/ 66.5	84.8/59.9	85.4/67.8	86.1/65.7	79.3/ 65.5
Habitat for wildlife and bird viewing	84.0/ 61.4	82.8/5 6.2	84.2/6 2.2	83.5/ 60.3	85.4/ 64.2	85.4/52.7	83.7/63.8	84.6/60.5	82.6/ 64.2
Use controlled fires	74.5/ 53.2	74.4/5 5.5	74.6/5 2.9	73.8/ 52.8	76.4/ 54.5	69.4/39.8	75.9/56.8	74.7/51.1	74.7/ 60.7
Open areas for wildlife	73.9/ 48.4	75.1/5 2.7	73.7/4 7.8	73.1/ 47.8	76.0/ 50.1	69.7/36.8	75.0/51.5	74.8/46.9	67.6/ 49.3
Allow cultural uses of forests	72.5/ 51.3	74.1/5 6.2	72.3/5 0.5	71.5/ 50.4	75.5/ 53.8	70.7/47.3	73.0/52.4	74.2/51.2	65.9/ 48.9
Trail systems for non-motorized recreation	68.7/ 39.5	64.9/3 6.0	69.3/4 0.1	69.2/ 39.6	67.3/ 39.3	72.6/34.6	67.7/40.8	71.2/38.9	66.4/ 43.4
Increase law enforcement	67.8/ 48.2	60.1/4 1.6	68.8/4 9.1	65.4/ 44.5	74.3/ 58.4	55.3/30.5	71.0/52.8	66.5/44.4	69.9/ 55.4
Designate more areas as wilderness	67.1/ 41.4	66.5/4 4.4	67.2/4 1.0	66.2/ 42.1	69.4/ 39.7	67.0/40.0	67.1/41.8	69.2/43.0	60.9/ 37.7
Increase acres in the National Forest	65.2/ 44.1	65.1/4 7.5	65.2/4 3.5	66.3/ 45.5	62.1/ 40.1	58.0/34.1	67.1/46.7	66.9/45.1	53.5/ 36.6
Allow diversity of uses such as grazing, recreation, and wildlife habitat	65.0/ 36.6	62.2/4 1.0	65.4/3 5.9	65.3/ 35.2	64.0/ 40.3	60.1/29.7	66.3/38.5	65.4/36.7	60.2/ 35.4
Restrict mineral removals	64.1/ 48.6	63.9/4 9.2	64.1/4 8.5	64.9/ 50.3	62.0/ 44.0	64.0/48.0	64.1/48.7	66.7/50.1	58.7/ 48.2
Make management decisions at the local level	63.8/ 37.1	63.8/4 1.6	63.8/3 6.4	64.3/ 36.2	62.6/ 39.2	58.9/31.9	65.1/38.4	63.8/36.5	66.8/ 46.1

Recreation Activity	SA Region	Own rural land	Do not own rural land	White, non-hispanic	Non-white, includes hispanic	Bachelors degree or more education	Less than a bachelors degree	Working	Retired
Allow management activities near streams	60.9/ 35.5	59.3/3 8.7	61.1/3 5.1	60.3/ 34.2	62.7/ 39.1	47.7/23.8	64.6/38.8	57.6/33.1	63.4/ 41.6
Allow recreation fees that go back to management	58.6/ 32.9	56.7/3 4.3	58.9/3 2.7	59.2/ 33.5	57.2/ 31.4	61.6/30.8	57.8/33.5	59.1/31.4	54.8/ 35.2
Limit people who visit wilderness	48.0/ 26.2	47.5/2 7.8	48.1/2 6.0	46.7/ 25.4	51.0/ 28.1	46.4/21.4	48.4/27.5	46.7/25.2	49.6/ 29.9
Limit people on a river at one time	47.2/ 28.8	46.3/2 9.3	47.3/2 8.8	45.7/ 26.0	51.4/ 36.8	47.1/24.5	47.2/30.0	47.8/27.8	44.6/ 30.7
Increase wildlife for hunting	46.6/ 27.8	55.5/3 5.3	45.4/2 6.7	48.5/ 28.6	41.4/ 25.5	36.6/19.9	49.3/29.9	44.5/25.5	52.3/ 33.9
Trade public for private lands to eliminate in holdings or acquire natural areas	44.8/ 22.9	44.4/2 5.9	44.9/2 2.4	45.0/ 22.6	44.2/ 23.7	46.9/18.7	44.2/24.0	46.2/21.7	40.2/ 24.4
Expand commercial recreation services	36.3/ 20.2	31.5/1 6.8	37.0/2 0.6	31.3/ 15.8	49.0/ 31.2	26.4/12.0	38.8/22.2	33.0/17.0	41.9/ 26.6
Allow harvesting and mining to support communities	36.2/ 20.1	33.3/2 2.3	36.6/1 9.7	33.1/ 17.5	44.3/ 26.9	25.6/10.2	39.0/22.7	31.7/16.8	39.0/ 23.6
New paved roads for cars	34.5/ 20.0	30.4/1 9.9	35.0/2 0.0	29.0/ 16.8	50.2/ 29.2	20.7/7.2	38.2/23.4	30.4/16.6	42.8/ 29.7
Allow recreational gold prospecting and dredging	24.2/ 11.7	19.0/1 0.3	25.0/1 1.9	21.7/ 11.1	31.0/ 13.4	14.1/7.0	26.9/13.0	21.6/10.8	21.9/ 12.6
Expand access for motorized off-highway vehicles	22.8/ 13.1	23.5/1 5.9	22.7/1 2.7	20.4/ 11.4	28.9/ 17.7	13.3/4.9	25.3/15.3	21.4/12.4	24.8/ 15.8
Allow commercial leasing of oil and gas rights	19.7/ 11.6	16.5/8 .6	20.2/1 2.1	17.9/ 10.8	24.2/ 13.8	16.2/6.5	20.7/13.0	18.4/10.7	22.9/ 15.8

Table 10, Opinions about Southern Appalachian Environmental Issues

- Of the 5 environmental issues presented to survey respondents, 3 differed by more than 2.0 percentage points between year-round and part-time residents. Year-round people were more in favor of trout over other species in stream protection. Part-time residents were slightly more in favor of controls on tourism and second home development and more in favor of increased timber, mining and other commercial uses.
- More long-term residents favored trout protection, compared to shorter-term residents. In addition, long-term residents were more supportive of increased commercial uses. Shorter-term residents were substantially more supportive of protection of habitat for plant and animal species.
- Attractiveness of the SA region did not factor into increased support for any of the 5 issues. People who stayed or moved for reasons other than attractiveness of the region were somewhat more likely to agree on 4 of the 5 issues, with the exception of habitat protection.
- Rural landowners did not agree more with any of the 5 issues compared to non-landowners. The latter group was more in agreement with tourism and second home development and increased commercial uses, but the differences for both were less than 3 percentage points.
- Whites and non-whites differed by more than 2 percentage points on all 5 environmental issues. Whites agreed more on only the habitat protection issue, with non-whites more in agreement on the other 4 issues, especially increased commercial uses (almost 14 percentage points higher).
- People with less than a bachelor's degree education agreed more that the Endangered Species Act has not gone far enough, showed preference for trout protection, and preferred increased commercial uses. Percentages for the other 2 items were virtually identical.
- Working and retired persons were not similar on any of the 5 issues. Retired people agreed more with trout protection and commercial uses while working individuals showed more favor to the other 3 issues by 6 percentage points or more.

Table 10. – Percentage of local residents, 16 or older, agreeing and strongly agreeing with each of 5 environmental statements, region-wide and by other residence and personal characteristics in the Southern Appalachians, 2002.

Forest Management Objective	SA Region	Year-round residents	Part-time residents	20+ year residents	<10 year residents	Stay/ moved here due to attractive area	Stay/ moved here for other reasons
Critical homes for plant and animal species should be protected	93.3/ 69.3	93.4/ 69.3	92.1/ 68.6	91.5/ 66.4	95.5/ 71.4	92.1/69.5	93.6/ 69.3
More controls on tourism and second home development	75.8/ 43.4	75.7/ 43.4	78.5/ 42.8	75.2/ 42.7	76.6/ 42.4	73.1/45.1	76.3/ 43.1
Endangered Species Act has not gone far enough	73.5/ 42.4	73.5/ 42.1	74.9/ 51.4	72.3/ 40.5	74.5/ 45.3	70.2/40.8	74.1/ 42.6
More important to protect streams for trout than for other species	49.6/ 23.1	49.7/ 23.3	45.7/ 17.8	53.8/ 26.8	44.7/ 17.6	47.4/23.4	50.0/ 23.1
More timber production, mining, and other commercial uses	28.2/ 10.1	28.1/ 10.1	33.3/ 10.8	32.3/ 12.1	25.0/ 9.2	24.0/8.2	29.0/ 10.5

Recreation Activity	SA Region	Own rural land	Do not own rural land	White, non-hispanic	Non-white, includes hispanic	Bachelors degree or more education	Less than a bachelors degree	Working	Retired
Critical homes for plant and animal species should be protected	93.3/ 69.3	94.3/7 0.5	93.2/6 9.1	94.8/ 69.4	89.4/ 69.0	93.9/68.0	93.2/69.6	95.0/70.9	87.7/ 59.6
More controls on tourism and second home development	75.8/ 43.4	73.3/4 5.7	76.2/4 3.1	74.3/ 42.1	79.6/ 46.9	75.6/40.3	75.8/44.2	77.6/44.6	69.2/ 41.4
Endangered Species Act has not gone far enough	73.5/ 42.4	74.1/3 8.0	73.4/4 3.0	72.5/ 39.6	76.1/ 49.6	62.0/29.3	76.6/45.8	73.7/40.7	67.2/ 39.5
More important to protect streams for trout than for other species	49.6/ 23.1	49.7/2 2.9	49.6/2 3.2	47.7/ 20.8	54.6/ 29.3	33.9/11.7	53.7/26.1	46.0/19.7	57.9/ 31.1
More timber production, mining, and other commercial uses	28.2/ 10.1	26.1/7 .7	28.6/1 0.5	24.5/ 8.1	38.1/ 15.6	20.2/6.3	30.4/11.1	25.3/8.6	33.6/ 13.3

Interpretation

Values.--By surveying residents 16 or older within a market area of 75 miles around each of the forests of Alabama and of the Southern Appalachians, a clear message from the public emerges. National Forests are valued highest for the protection they provide for sources of clean water, as a legacy of natural forests in good condition to pass along to future generations, for the protection they afford wildlife and wildlife habitat, for the protection of trees they afford for healthy forests, for their natural appearance, and for the protection they afford to rare or endangered species. To the public, clean water, healthy forests and wildlife are most important. To meet the desires and expectations of this public, attention to these values should come first in forest plan revisions.

Objectives.--In order to achieve some optimal level of satisfaction that the above values are considered as highest in importance, the public puts a number of objectives at the top of their list for the Cherokee, Nantahala, and Pisgah National Forests. First priority is protection of streams, lakes and watershed areas. This priority is followed by protection of important, often critical, wildlife habitats, permitting old growth forests to function naturally, provide habitat to encourage wildlife and birds for people to see and photograph, use fire to control fuel buildups and to encourage wildlife habitat, continue to permit traditional cultural uses of the forests, and create open areas for wildlife,. Putting these objectives at the top helps define the publicly acceptable plate of objectives that should be included and emphasized in forest plan revisions.

Issues.--Prior to this survey, 12 issues were identified by the Forest Service across Southern Appalachian National Forests as important considerations in formulating plan revisions. In part, the priority or emphasis placed on each of these issues relative to the other eleven must reflect the judgement of specialists across the spectrum of natural resource management professionals within Region, Forest and District staffs. In part, these priorities must also reflect special interest input gained from public meetings held across the Southern Appalachians and submitted comments during the plan revision period. But in addition, and likely far outweighing input from the special interests or any other source, emphasis must reflect what the general public feels the priorities should be. All citizens co-own and thus should have voice in National Forest management priorities, **whether or not they ever visit or use a national forest**.

Following below are the 12 issues identified for Southern Appalachian National Forest plan revisions (with slightly modified wording) ordered from highest to lowest in order of priority based on congruence with the 13 national forest values in Table 4. Instead of being worded as questions, the lead sentence of each issue is stated as a management direction. Following the lead sentence are attendant questions for clarifying management implementation. This ordered list is not meant to imply that selection of the highest listed issues excludes consideration of the lower listed issues. Rather, it implies that publicly responsive management should proceed by placing first and greatest emphasis on resolving the highest priority issues before increasing emphasis on lower priority issues.

- Ensure hydrologic conditions sufficient for the beneficial uses of **water yielded by and flowing through National Forest** System lands. What are the desired riparian ecosystem conditions within national forests, and how will they be identified, maintained and/or restored? What management is needed for the maintenance, enhancement, or restoration of aquatic habitats?
- Retain or restore a **diverse mix of terrestrial plant and animal habitat conditions**, while meeting

public demands for a variety of wildlife values and uses.

- Balance the rights of citizens to access their national forests with Agency responsibilities to **protect and manage** the soil and water resources, wildlife populations and habitat, aesthetics, forest health, and desired vegetative conditions.
- Maintain **forest capacity to function in a sustainable** manner. Of particular concern are the impacts of exotic or non-native species, and the presence of ecological conditions with a higher level of insect and disease susceptibility.
- Identify and manage **old growth** forests. How much old growth is desired? Where should old growth occur, and how should old growth be managed?
- Designate and manage special areas such as **rare communities**, as identified in the Southern Appalachian Assessment.
- Recommend additional roadless areas on National Forest System lands for **wilderness designation**. For any roadless areas not recommended for wilderness, how should they be managed? How should areas recommended for wilderness designation be managed? How should the patterns and intensity of use, fire, insects, and disease be managed in existing wilderness areas?
- Protect and recover populations of federally listed **threatened, endangered and proposed species**. What level of management is needed for Forest Service sensitive and locally rare species?
- Manage for **visual quality**. What are the appropriate landscape character goals for the national forests? What should be the scenic integrity objectives for the national forests?
- Identify and nominate rivers suitable for designation into the **National Wild and Scenic River** System. How should rivers that are eligible, but not suitable be managed?
- Provide **recreational opportunities and experiences** on national forests to meet growing demand while protecting forest resources. This includes considering a full range of opportunities for developed and dispersed recreation activities (including such activities as nature study, hunting, fishing, and trail uses).
- Manage national forests for sustained **production of wood products**. What are the appropriate objectives for wood product management? Where should removal of wood products occur, given that this production is part of a set of multiple use objectives, and considering cost effectiveness? What should be the level of outputs of wood products? What management activities associated with the production of wood products are appropriate?

The population of the area is growing and diversifying, as is the case in the Southern Appalachians and in the South generally. Growth means increased demands for the increasingly unique natural forests found on National Forests. Population diversification means shifts in attitudes and values toward National Forests. The trend has been toward more sensitivity for maintaining the natural condition and appearance of lands and forests. While we generally are a consumptive society, people express deep concern and caring about the future of natural resources and lands, such as National Forests. Overall, with some modest variations, there is agreement among people of different ages, races, employment status, places of residence, and education that careful management of National Forests to assure clean water, sustained healthy forests, wildlife habitat and naturalness are of highest priority. This is clear direction for setting management emphases in plan revisions.

Design of management strategies to address any one of the 12 plan revision issues can be aided by the data in this report. For example, in setting priorities for recreation management, participation data and visitation data in tables 2 and 3 point out what is most popular and the ordering of activities from highest to

lowest in demand. Data in Table 5 provide guidance on more specific objectives that the public would feel are important or unimportant in addressing the 12 plan revision issues. Data in Table 6 indicates that the trend is toward greater environmental concern and greater concern for the natural conditions of National Forests, a trend likely to persist through the next round of plan revisions and implementation. Data in Tables 7 through 10 provide indications of who would be most or least positively or negatively impacted by choices regarding any of the plan revision issues.

Planners at forest level should become intimately familiar with the numbers presented in the tables of this report. These data can and should be viewed as insights into the thinking of the people for whom National Forests are managed. Rarely is this insight afforded. Rarely is such a solid foundation for making and defending plan choices available. For example, in the question by question results in the Appendix, we learn that only about 14 percent of people in the SAs interviewed think charging a fee for recreation that goes back to the management unit is unimportant. Many, many more such gems of information lie within this report. We, the research team, wish you well.

APPENDIX

The text and summary statistics below follow the format of the survey instrument as applied in Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) of Southern Appalachian residents. All text used by the telephone interviewers is shown unedited. For each question asked, summary percentages are shown in boxed tables. At the end of each question is shown the Sub-Region number of respondents making up the percentages in the boxed tables, for example, N = 2,170 indicates the percentages are based on 2,170 responses to that question from a sample of persons residing in that sub-region. The number of respondents varies from question to question because each question applies to a different subset of the respondent population. For example, the number of responses to SAA1 will always be larger than the number of responses to question SAA1A because SAA1 was applied to all respondents while SAA1A was applied only to those who in response to SAA1 indicated they were not a year-round resident. Thus, SAA1A was not asked of persons who were year-round residents. Question numbering, while appearing to be inconsistent, is actually part of a massive on-going numbering system used in tracking questions across numerous versions of the National Survey on Recreation and the Environment, NSRE, as they have been implemented over the past 8 years. Following immediately below is the introduction read to each person with which a phone interviewer made contact. Following that, is the full text of the survey.

Question-By-Question Summary of Results

Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the survey research center at the University of Tennessee. We are randomly contacting a few households throughout the southeast to ask questions about your attitudes toward the environment and the area in which you live.

OR

Hello, this is _____ calling for the University of Tennessee. We recently called to conduct an interview with _____. Is this a good time to complete the interview?

For this survey to be valid, I need to randomly select a person from your household to interview. In order to select that person, could you please tell me how many people there are living in your household 16 years of age or older?

Out of those _____ people, may I speak with the person who had the most recent birthday?

_____ Self _____ Someone else

NEW PERSON Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling from the survey research center at the University of Tennessee. We are randomly contacting a few households throughout the southeast to ask questions about your attitudes toward the environment and the area in which you live.

IF IT'S THE PERSON ON THE PHONE CONTINUE.

WHEN CORRECT PERSON ANSWERS REPEAT FIRST PARAGRAPH AND CONTINUE BELOW. IF PERSON IS NOT THERE AT THE TIME, FIND OUT WHEN TO CALL BACK.

Your opinions are very important to us and we are interviewing only a select number of people. Is this a good time to ask you some questions or would another time be better for you?

Callback _____

First Name _____

I want to assure you that all the information you give me will be kept strictly confidential. This interview is strictly voluntary. If you don't want to answer any particular question, just tell me. Also my supervisor may listen to part of the interview for quality control.

Southern Appalachian Assessment

SAA1 Are you a year round resident at this address where we are calling you now? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	97.64	97.56	97.74	97.60	97.19
2. No	2.36	2.44	2.26	2.40	2.81

SAA1A Are you a part-time resident, for at least two months of the year, at this address?
(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	2.36	2.44	2.26	2.40	2.81
2. No	97.64	97.56	97.74	97.60	97.19

SAA1B What county do you live in?

SAA1C In what state is _____ county? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Alabama	1.91	1.77	0.05	1.68	21.38
2. Washington, DC	0	0	0	0	0.49
3. Georgia	28.79	39.29	5.74	31.09	24.25
4. Florida	0	0	0	0	3.11
5. Kentucky	2.10	0	1.84	1.85	3.50
6. Maryland	0	0	0	0	1.50
7. Mississippi	0	0	0	0	1.45
8. North Carolina	19.80	11.03	31.32	19.86	10.55
9. Ohio	0	0	0	0	1.45
10. Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0.44
11. South Carolina	9.80	15.00	19.57	12.42	7.38
12. Tennessee	30.97	32.90	34.18	27.28	14.28
13. Virginia	4.78	0	6.01	4.20	7.03
14. West Virginia	1.85	0	1.29	1.62	3.20

SAA3 Have you lived in _____ county all your life? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	37.60	34.57	41.36	36.04	38.09
2. No	62.33	65.36	58.60	63.90	61.84
8. Don't know	0.03	0.03	0	0.03	0.03
9. Refused	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.04

SAA3A How many years have you lived in _____ county? **(N=1792)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
Years	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Don't know/ Refused	0.64	0.65	0.42	0.62	1.10
1 or less	9.88	10.72	10.27	10.79	11.36
2-3	13.45	13.88	11.12	13.79	12.24
4-5	9.61	10.44	10.37	10.61	10.45
6-10	17.50	18.44	15.15	17.39	17.27
11-20	20.62	20.16	20.38	19.97	19.78
21+	28.29	25.71	32.29	26.82	27.80

SAA4 What was the most important factor in your decision to move to _____. Was it because **(N=1794)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
Factor	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Your family moved here when you were young	18.29	18.73	17.26	18.79	18.46
2. Your job	24.02	23.87	23.53	23.58	24.88
3. You had family or relatives in the area, or	22.66	20.57	24.35	22.79	23.43
4. The area is attractive	18.16	19.17	16.03	17.77	15.30
5. Other	15.40	16.42	17.02	15.76	16.36
8-9 Don't know/Refused	1.47	1.23	1.81	1.32	1.57

SAA5 Why do you remain in the Southern Appalachians? Is it because of **(N=854)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Your job	6.21	5.76	5.76	6.05	7.28
2. You have family or relatives in the area, or	53.23	52.51	52.67	53.40	53.66
3. The area is attractive	14.67	14.71	14.01	14.72	14.27
4. Other	24.76	25.49	26.47	24.67	22.67
8-9 Don't know/Refused	1.12	1.54	1.09	1.16	2.13

I would like you to think about the outdoor recreation activities you took part in during the past 12 months. Include any outdoor activities you did around the home, on vacations, trips, or any other time.

We are interested in a wide range of outdoor activities from walking, bicycling, and birdwatching to camping, boating, skiing, and so forth.

Q28 During the past 12 months did you do any type of bicycling or mountain biking on trails, backcountry roads or cross country? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	16.00	15.87	14.69	16.20	16.21
2. No	83.84	84.00	85.07	83.62	83.65
8. Don't know	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.07	0.09
9. Refused	0.08	0.04	0.12	0.11	0.05

Q38 Did you go horseback riding on trails, back roads, or cross country? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	9.60	9.18	9.82	9.48	9.95
2. No	90.25	90.71	89.96	90.35	89.95
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0.02
9. Refused	0.15	0.11	0.22	0.17	0.08

Q45 Did you go picnicking? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	58.34	58.48	60.26	58.46	54.63
2. No	41.51	41.40	39.56	41.36	45.25
8. Don't know	0.12	0.09	0.11	0.10	0.09
9. Refused	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.03

Q83 Did you go day hiking? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	43.02	42.55	44.07	42.58	37.02
2. No	56.70	57.23	55.62	57.13	62.74
8. Don't know	0.14	0.10	0.09	0.12	0.13
9. Refused	0.15	0.11	0.22	0.17	0.11

Q93 Did you go backpacking on trails or cross country? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	11.22	11.35	10.88	11.09	9.05
2. No	88.62	88.51	88.88	88.73	90.78
8. Don't know	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.08
9. Refused	0.15	0.11	0.22	0.17	0.09

Q101 Did you camp at developed sites with facilities such as tables and toilets? **(N=2647)**

IF NEEDED, CLARIFY: Developed sites are areas with improved roads, campsites and water taps, and sometimes with utility hookups, flush toilets, showers, stores, or laundry facilities.

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	26.42	25.48	27.45	26.25	25.21
2. No	73.50	74.44	72.43	73.64	74.66
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0.07
9. Refused	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.11	0.06

Q109 Did you camp at a primitive site without facilities? **(N=2647)**

IF NEEDED, CLARIFY a primitive site is one you can drive into, but which has no improved roads, water taps, utility hookups, flush toilets, showers, stores, or laundry facilities.

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	20.04	18.98	19.95	19.09	17.30
2. No	79.88	80.93	79.93	80.81	82.55
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0.08
9. Refused	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.11	0.06

Q131 Did you visit a wilderness or other undeveloped, roadless area? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	42.29	42.91	42.18	42.05	38.98
2. No	57.18	56.46	57.29	57.36	60.41
8. Don't know	0.45	0.54	0.41	0.48	0.48
9. Refused	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.11	0.13

Q134 Did you gather mushrooms, berries, firewood, or other natural products? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	27.59	26.60	27.80	27.05	27.40
2. No	72.30	73.27	72.03	72.82	72.47
8. Don't know	0.08	0.09	0.11	0.07	0.10
9. Refused	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.03

Q136 During the past 12 months, did you view, identify, or photograph wildlife, fish, or natural scenery? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	60.11	61.43	61.18	61.04	58.11
2. No	39.52	38.35	38.34	38.59	41.63
8. Don't know	0.34	0.19	0.42	0.30	0.23
9. Refused	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.03

Q152 Did you go hunting during the past 12 months? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	12.44	11.83	13.76	12.28	14.23
2. No	87.34	87.97	85.92	87.49	85.66
9. Refused	0.22	0.20	0.32	0.23	0.12

Q153 Did you hunt big game? <does not include birds> (N=293)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	9.82	8.93	10.65	9.72	11.66
2. No	89.96	90.87	89.03	90.05	88.20
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0.03
9. Refused	0.22	0.20	0.32	0.23	0.012

Q159 Did you hunt small game or waterfowl? (N=293)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	8.05	8.01	9.83	8.02	8.84
2. No	91.71	91.77	90.21	91.69	91.01
8. Don't know	0.02	0.03	0.09	0.05	0.03
9. Refused	0.22	0.20	0.32	0.23	0.12

Q207 Did you go driving for pleasure on country roads or in a park, forest, or other natural setting? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	74.63	74.53	76.43	73.78	71.96
2. No	25.22	25.33	23.48	26.06	27.88
8. Don't know	0.11	0.10	0.03	0.10	0.12
9. Refused	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.03

Q197 Did you drive off-road for recreation using a 4-wheel drive, an ATV, or motorcycle? <off-road is defined as off of paved or gravel roads. ATV stands for "All Terrain Vehicle"> (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	24.34	22.82	24.68	23.86	23.96
2. No	75.37	76.91	74.91	75.85	75.85
8. Don't know	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.07
9. Refused	0.20	0.17	0.29	0.21	0.11

Q222 Did you go fishing in mountain rivers, lakes, or streams? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	34.41	33.66	36.34	34.37	34.34
2. No	65.36	66.14	63.42	65.39	65.52
8. Don't know	0.10	0.11	0.06	0.09	0.06
9. Refused	0.12	0.09	0.18	0.15	0.07

Q266 Did you go canoeing or kayaking? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	10.31	10.93	10.26	10.76	10.54
2. No	89.45	88.86	89.39	89.00	89.31
8. Don't know	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.04
9. Refused	0.20	0.17	0.29	0.21	0.11

Q290 Did you go motorboating or waterskiing? <This does not include personal watercraft.> (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	26.10	27.31	28.11	26.84	25.68
2. No	73.78	72.60	71.71	73.01	74.24
8. Don't know	0.	0	0	0	0.00
9. Refused	0.12	0.09	0.18	0.15	0.07

Q284 Did you go rafting, tubing, or any other type of floating on rivers or other flowing water? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	18.72	18.63	18.53	18.68	16.40
2. No	81.12	81.24	81.24	81.15	83.46
8. Don't know	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
9. Refused	0.12	0.09	0.18	0.15	0.08

Q326 Did you go swimming in streams, lakes, or ponds? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	38.24	38.27	38.92	37.80	36.35
2. No	61.49	61.43	60.74	61.88	63.50
8. Don't know	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.02
9. Refused	0.21	0.25	0.29	0.27	0.13

REC1A Our map shows that (named forest) is/are within an hour or so of _____ County.

Bankhead National Forest
 Chattahoochee National Forest
 Cherokee National Forest
 Conecuh National Forest
 Daniel Boone National Forest
 George Washington National Forest
 Jefferson National Forest
 Nantahala National Forest
 Oconee National Forest
 Pisgah National Forest
 Sumter National Forest
 Talladega National Forest
 Tuskegee National Forest

RECBANK Have you ever visited the Bankhead National Forest? (N=55)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	8.34	9.62	0	8.34	25.15
2. No	91.66	90.38	0	91.66	73.56
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	1.15
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.14

RECCHAT Have you ever visited the Chattahoochee National Forest? (N=1766)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	37.46	38.55	30.94	38.16	36.34
2. No	58.98	58.13	66.16	58.57	60.47
8. Don't know	2.95	2.78	2.90	2.73	2.78
9. Refused	0.61	0.54	0	0.53	0.41

RECCHER Have you ever visited the Cherokee National Forest? (N=2352)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	52.48	54.06	63.26	52.48	52.48
2. No	45.11	43.35	34.39	45.11	45.11
8. Don't know	2.41	2.59	2.34	2.41	2.41
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECCONHave you ever visited the Conecuh National Forest? **(N=0)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	0	0	0	0	11.41
2. No	0	0	0	0	87.18
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	1.40
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECDBHave you ever visited the Daniel Boone National Forest? **(N=794)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	24.17	22.72	23.96	24.17	32.76
2. No	72.38	73.54	72.99	72.38	63.92
8. Don't know	3.45	3.74	3.05	3.45	3.32
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECGWHave you ever visited the George Washington National Forest? **(N=93)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	17.65	0	15.44	17.65	33.81
2. No	78.35	0	79.68	78.35	64.16
8. Don't know	4.00	0	4.88	4.00	2.03
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECJEFHave you ever visited the Jefferson National Forest? **(N=1103)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	19.60	12.06	18.83	19.53	21.81
2. No	77.18	84.33	77.98	77.27	74.98
8. Don't know	3.22	3.61	3.19	3.20	3.21
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECNAVHave you ever visited the Nantahala National Forest? **(N=2080)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	30.77	30.31	32.95	30.31	30.31
2. No	67.40	67.93	65.51	67.93	67.93
8. Don't know	1.83	1.76	1.54	1.76	1.76
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECOCOHave you ever visited the Oconee National Forest? **(N=931)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	37.80	38.31	48.77	38.31	33.53
2. No	59.97	59.63	48.11	59.63	64.27
8. Don't know	2.24	2.06	3.12	2.06	2.19
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECPISHave you ever visited the Pisgah National Forest? **(N=1674)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	36.28	38.95	36.31	36.31	36.31
2. No	62.49	59.85	62.47	62.47	62.47
8. Don't know	1.23	1.20	1.22	1.22	1.22
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECSUMHave you ever visited the Sumter National Forest? **(N=1491)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	10.73	12.18	13.89	12.02	13.08
2. No	86.29	85.18	83.21	85.09	84.15
8. Don't know	2.99	2.64	2.90	2.88	2.77
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECTALLHave you ever visited the Talladega National Forest? **(N=586)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	12.52	12.40	0	12.76	24.88
2. No	85.65	85.78	0	85.44	73.88
8. Don't know	1.83	1.83	0	1.80	1.23
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

RECTUSK Have you ever visited the Tuskegee National Forest? (N=0)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	0	0	0	0	18.73
2. No	0	0	0	0	80.73
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0.55
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0.00

REC2 Which National Forest have you visited the most? (N=2058)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0	0	0	0	0.10
Don't know	2.92	2.55	2.62	2.75	2.74
Bankhead	0.03	0.04	0	0.03	3.75
Chattahoochee	16.06	21.14	4.88	17.45	14.38
Cherokee	41.07	37.40	44.05	36.92	23.24
Conecuh	0	0	0	0	1.60
Daniel Boone	3.02	1.57	2.86	2.71	6.67
George Washington	0.09	0	0.04	0.08	5.24
Jefferson	5.20	0.59	5.84	4.67	4.26
Nantahala	9.36	11.71	7.56	9.64	6.06
Oconee	4.79	8.71	6.15	7.17	7.05
Pisgah	14.89	12.63	22.91	15.26	9.61
Sumter	1.53	2.58	2.99	2.27	2.34
Talladega	1.05	1.08	0.10	1.05	10.12
Tuskegee	0	0	0	0	2.85

REC3How many times have you visited (named forest) in the last 12 months? **(N=2058)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0.07	0	0.04	0.06	0.04
Don't know	3.70	3.21	3.54	3.37	3.19
0	21.26	21.40	21.14	21.95	27.05
1	20.23	20.35	21.09	21.06	20.96
2-3	29.84	30.17	28.74	29.58	26.74
4-5	9.54	9.66	8.58	9.05	8.36
6-10	7.59	7.17	8.13	7.43	6.61
11-20	4.38	4.42	4.76	4.10	3.76
21+	3.39	3.64	3.99	3.39	3.29

REC4A You indicated earlier that you participated in a number of outdoor recreation activities. As I read each one, please tell me whether or not you did that activity on the (named forest).

Camp at developed sites **(N=2540)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	11.45	11.22	11.93	10.79	8.29
2. No	88.55	88.78	88.07	89.21	91.71

REC4B Camp at primitive sites **(N=2590)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	7.40	7.10	8.76	7.02	5.41
2. No	92.60	92.90	91.24	92.98	94.59

REC4C Gather natural products (N=2541)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	10.40	10.50	10.56	10.07	8.06
2. No	89.60	89.50	89.44	89.93	91.94

REC4D Go driving for pleasure (N=2282)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	57.03	57.31	61.53	55.70	48.27
2. No	42.97	42.69	38.47	44.30	51.73

REC4E Visit a wilderness area (N=2502)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	30.76	30.72	31.51	29.85	23.86
2. No	69.24	69.28	68.49	70.15	76.14

REC4F Go off-road driving (N=2545)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	8.17	7.95	9.22	8.01	6.92
2. No	91.83	92.05	90.78	91.99	93.08

REC4G Horseback riding (N=2614)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	2.29	2.06	2.32	2.16	1.58
2. No	97.71	97.94	97.68	97.84	98.42

REC4H Hunt small game/waterfowl (N=2618)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	1.95	1.84	2.15	1.79	1.50
2. No	98.05	98.16	97.85	98.21	98.50

REC4J Hunt big game (N=2619)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	2.52	2.23	3.13	2.56	2.30
2. No	97.48	97.77	96.87	97.44	97.70

REC4K Motorboating/waterskiing (N=2539)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	4.30	4.80	4.41	4.37	3.57
2. No	95.70	95.20	95.59	95.63	96.43

REC4L Backpack (N=2613)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	5.94	6.51	6.15	5.88	4.09
2. No	94.06	93.49	93.85	94.12	95.91

REC4M Bicycle/mountain bike (N=2575)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	4.44	4.79	4.36	4.51	3.46
	95.56	95.21	95.64	95.49	96.54

REC4N Picnic (N=2370)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	37.78	38.57	39.58	36.88	29.21
2. No	62.22	61.43	60.42	63.12	70.79

REC4O Hike (N=2479)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	28.15	28.83	30.06	27.74	20.64
2. No	71.85	71.17	69.94	72.26	79.36

REC4Q View wildlife/scenery (N=2373)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	47.88	47.33	49.00	47.11	39.71
2. No	52.12	52.67	51.00	52.89	60.29

REC4S Fish (N=2516)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	13.38	13.35	14.50	13.19	10.47
2. No	86.62	86.65	85.50	86.81	89.53

REC4T Canoeing/kayaking (N=2615)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	3.47	4.00	3.01	3.43	2.35
2. No	96.53	96.00	96.99	96.57	97.65

REC4W Rafting/Tubing (N=2585)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	6.48	6.88	5.42	6.36	3.75
2. No	93.52	93.12	94.58	93.64	96.25

REC4X Swimming (N=2506)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	13.88	13.94	13.01	13.22	10.50
2. No	86.12	86.06	86.99	86.78	89.50

NAFINTRO

Now I will read you 13 statements that describe different values that could be emphasized in the management of our National Forests in your area of the Southern Appalachians. Please rate each statement from one to five, with five meaning extremely important and one meaning not at all important.

NF1 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Protecting streams and other sources of clean water in managing our National Forests?(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.78	1.52	1.93	1.59	1.70
2.	0.69	0.59	0.67	0.77	0.81
3.	1.81	1.80	1.69	1.81	2.38
4.	7.40	7.52	6.29	7.35	7.67
5. Extremely Important	87.35	87.68	88.71	87.56	86.31
8. Don't Know	0.89	0.81	0.57	0.82	0.91
9. Refused	0.08	0.09	0.16	0.10	0.23

NF2 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Maintaining national forests for future generations to use and enjoy in managing our National Forests?(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.78	1.56	1.86	1.63	1.47
2.	1.09	1.03	1.01	1.05	1.13
3.	3.11	3.88	2.62	3.53	3.60
4.	7.99	8.03	7.28	8.12	9.05
5. Extremely Important	85.07	84.35	86.63	84.70	83.66
8. Don't Know	0.79	0.96	0.49	0.81	0.84
9. Refused	0.17	0.19	0.11	0.15	0.25

NF3 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing access, facilities and services for outdoor recreation in managing our National Forests?(**N=2647**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	2.62	2.70	2.36	2.56	2.80
2.	2.95	3.11	2.71	2.97	3.20
3.	19.20	19.88	18.16	19.42	18.18
4.	26.14	27.70	26.39	26.35	26.31
5. Extremely Important	47.03	44.78	48.44	46.84	47.80
8. Don't Know	2.00	1.76	1.88	1.81	1.55
9. Refused	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.18

NF4 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing habitat and protection for abundant wildlife and fish in managing our National Forests?(**N=2646**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.78	1.83	1.88	1.58	1.85
2.	1.12	1.06	0.81	1.10	1.52

3.	6.33	5.75	5.63	6.21	6.23
4.	14.81	14.35	13.88	14.63	16.33
5. Extremely Important	74.06	74.95	76.52	74.76	72.43
8. Don't Know	1.69	1.81	1.11	1.54	1.41
9. Refused	0.22	0.24	0.17	0.19	0.24

NF5 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing quiet, natural places for personal renewal in managing our National Forests?(N=2646)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	2.48	2.45	2.75	2.55	3.02
2.	3.24	3.21	2.59	3.28	3.71
3.	14.83	15.95	14.37	15.18	14.83
4.	21.71	21.71	20.67	21.65	21.64
5. Extremely Important	55.39	54.46	58.23	55.20	54.18
8. Don't Know	2.17	2.01	1.17	1.98	2.38
9. Refused	0.19	0.21	0.22	0.17	0.23

NF6 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Using and managing forest areas in ways that leave them natural in appearance in managing our National Forests?(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	2.19	2.90	2.43	2.66	2.59
2.	1.65	1.35	1.70	1.65	1.94
3.	6.42	6.74	5.84	6.68	7.52
4.	17.47	17.62	16.47	17.49	17.27
5. Extremely Important	71.16	70.26	72.46	70.42	68.60
8. Don't Know	0.98	1.00	0.93	0.99	1.72

9. Refused	0.13	0.14	0.16	0.11	0.35
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NF7 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Emphasizing planting and management of trees for an abundant timber supply in managing our National Forests?(**N=2647**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	6.93	7.17	5.98	6.90	6.27
2.	5.39	5.74	5.24	5.44	5.09
3.	14.10	14.68	14.44	14.37	14.18
4.	18.53	18.22	18.81	18.48	17.56
5. Extremely Important	52.95	52.06	53.78	52.92	54.78
8. Don't Know	1.92	1.93	1.53	1.73	1.78
9. Refused	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.16	0.33

NF8 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing access to raw materials and products for local industries and communities in managing our National Forests? (**N=2647**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	17.77	18.19	17.67	17.37	16.02
2.	14.63	16.28	15.36	15.09	13.12
3.	25.60	24.71	24.81	25.26	26.01
4.	14.88	14.72	14.55	15.17	16.43
5. Extremely Important	20.20	19.41	21.40	20.70	22.26
8. Don't Know	6.21	5.95	5.03	5.72	5.44
9. Refused	0.71	0.75	0.88	0.69	0.72

NF9 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Protecting rare, unique or endangered plant and animal species in managing our National Forests?
(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	2.13	2.26	1.89	2.09	2.60
2.	2.52	2.51	1.80	2.39	2.47
3.	9.23	9.07	9.50	9.49	9.55
4.	12.54	11.94	12.29	12.52	13.44
5. Extremely Important	71.07	71.79	72.62	71.27	69.69
8. Don't Know	2.33	2.29	1.71	2.08	2.00
9. Refused	0.17	0.14	0.19	0.15	0.25

NF10 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing roads, accommodations and services to help local tourism business in managing our National Forests? (N=2646)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	6.67	7.71	7.65	6.89	6.58
2.	10.46	10.78	10.23	10.51	9.44
3.	26.99	27.81	25.63	26.92	24.99
4.	21.06	20.77	20.19	20.91	21.25
5. Extremely Important	33.08	31.20	35.53	33.20	36.02
8. Don't Know	1.70	1.69	0.72	1.53	1.50
9. Refused	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.21

NF11 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing permits to ranchers for grazing of livestock such as cattle and sheep in managing our National Forests? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	13.39	14.57	14.27	13.74	13.42
2.	12.06	12.20	12.49	12.11	11.20
3.	26.22	26.55	24.53	25.87	24.67
4.	17.33	17.78	17.79	17.80	18.69
5. Extremely Important	25.14	23.45	25.68	25.08	26.54
8. Don't Know	5.56	5.12	5.01	5.08	4.87
9. Refused	0.30	0.33	0.23	0.32	0.61

NF12 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Providing information and educational services about forests, their management and the natural life in them in managing our National Forests? **(N=2646)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.84	1.64	1.72	1.74	1.67
2.	2.92	2.68	2.19	2.68	3.01
3.	13.02	13.66	13.19	13.43	13.18
4.	23.31	24.73	24.13	23.93	24.15
5. Extremely Important	56.67	54.95	57.19	56.06	55.95
8. Don't Know	2.00	2.08	1.27	1.97	1.80
9. Refused	0.23	0.26	0.32	0.21	0.25

NF13 Using the scale from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning extremely important and 1 meaning not at all important, how important is

Emphasizing planting and management of trees for healthy forests in managing our National Forests? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.67	1.50	1.64	1.57	1.78
2.	1.73	1.62	1.44	1.60	1.57
3.	6.95	7.00	5.54	6.91	7.25
4.	16.53	17.77	16.69	17.20	17.21
5. Extremely Important	71.74	70.73	73.68	71.51	70.53
8. Don't Know	1.30	1.29	0.89	1.14	1.49
9. Refused	0.08	0.09	0.12	0.07	0.17

OBJINTRO

We are interested in your opinions regarding some specific options people have raised concerning what we do with National Forests in your area. I will read a number of statements describing different National Forest uses for you to rate on a scale of one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. Remember you are referring to National Forests in your area of the Southern Appalachians.

- OBJ1** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area Expand access for motorized off-highway vehicles on forests, such as 4-wheel drive vehicles. **(N=1443)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	32.07	32.26	31.60	31.49	30.19
2.	21.39	22.15	21.65	21.86	20.44
3.	21.64	21.75	20.95	22.05	24.15
4.	10.30	9.79	10.53	10.18	9.67
5. Extremely Important	12.44	11.74	13.19	12.42	13.10
8. Don't Know	1.56	1.65	1.44	1.49	2.01
9. Refused	0.60	0.66	0.62	0.52	0.43

- OBJ3** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area Develop and maintain trail systems that cross both public and private land for non-motorized recreation such as hiking or horseback riding. **(N=1423)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	5.47	5.23	6.53	5.20	5.50
2.	4.15	5.17	4.05	4.55	4.53
3.	16.88	17.38	15.71	17.27	18.72
4.	30.26	29.31	31.24	30.79	29.18
5. Extremely Important	41.03	40.55	39.87	40.23	39.53
8. Don't Know	1.36	1.40	1.59	1.20	1.84
9. Refused	0.87	0.96	1.02	0.76	0.71

OBJ5

Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Develop new paved roads on National Forests in your area of the Southern Appalachians for access for cars and recreational vehicles. **(N=1376)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	24.83	26.99	24.55	25.05	22.0
2.	18.21	18.67	17.12	18.19	17.34
3.	24.32	22.71	22.77	23.54	24.64
4.	11.82	12.56	13.58	12.69	14.49
5. Extremely Important	19.52	17.75	20.40	19.32	19.96
8. Don't Know	1.13	1.13	1.35	1.07	1.41
9. Refused	0.16	0.18	0.23	0.14	0.15

OBJ6

Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Designate more areas as wilderness where only primitive and non-motorized uses are allowed. **(N=1444)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	4.13	4.17	4.40	4.30	4.18
2.	5.69	6.01	4.48	5.42	5.37
3.	19.66	18.17	20.51	18.96	19.66
4.	25.34	25.89	25.54	26.67	25.67
5. Extremely Important	41.97	42.54	41.81	41.73	41.44
8. Don't Know	2.65	2.60	2.58	2.43	3.22
9. Refused	0.56	0.61	0.68	0.49	0.46

OBJ7 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Protect areas that are the sources of water, such as streams, lakes, and watershed areas. **(N=1303)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.53	1.16	1.63	1.34	1.15
2.	0.29	0.83	0.29	0.66	1.28
3.	3.81	3.58	2.74	3.40	4.27
4.	13.80	13.41	14.34	13.11	12.78
5. Extremely Important	79.19	79.60	80.17	80.22	79.16
8. Don't Know	1.33	1.35	0.82	1.23	1.25
9. Refused	0.06	0.06	0	0.05	0.11

OBJ9 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Protect areas that are important wildlife habitats. **(N=1406)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.02	0.86	1.24	1.13	1.26
2.	0.82	0.90	0.54	0.78	1.05
3.	5.51	5.59	4.79	5.42	5.82
4.	16.43	17.71	16.76	17.24	17.22
5. Extremely Important	74.54	73.62	74.68	73.97	72.68
8. Don't Know	1.25	0.82	1.48	1.08	1.42
9. Refused	0.44	0.49	0.52	0.38	0.55

- OBJ10** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Limit the number of people who can visit a wilderness area to avoid crowding. **(N=1439)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	10.91	10.57	9.61	10.42	12.06
2.	8.46	9.11	10.61	9.24	9.50
3.	26.50	25.17	25.57	25.91	26.39
4.	23.42	23.95	23.10	23.57	21.79
5. Extremely Important	26.40	27.18	27.69	27.00	26.20
8. Don't Know	4.12	3.85	3.36	3.68	3.56
9. Refused	0.19	0.16	0.06	0.17	0.50

- OBJ11** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow different groups such as Native Americans to continue their cultural uses of forests such as fire wood gathering, herb/berry/plant gathering, and ceremonial access. **(N=1450)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	3.97	4.16	4.57	4.02	4.87
2.	5.61	6.19	5.10	5.85	5.34
3.	13.86	14.61	12.89	13.76	15.06
4.	21.97	23.47	21.03	22.38	21.25
5. Extremely Important	53.32	50.46	55.23	52.87	51.30
8. Don't Know	0.96	0.77	0.76	0.85	1.92
9. Refused	0.30	0.34	0.43	0.27	0.27

OBJ12 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow harvesting and mining to help support communities dependent on grazing, minerals, or timber. **(N=1388)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	19.91	20.68	19.36	19.49	17.26
2.	14.50	16.15	14.29	15.26	14.93
3.	26.70	25.41	26.50	25.99	26.77
4.	15.24	15.87	15.01	15.97	16.10
5. Extremely Important	18.50	16.51	20.98	18.58	20.07
8. Don't Know	4.41	4.62	3.17	4.07	4.19
9. Refused	0.74	0.76	0.69	0.65	0.67

OBJ13 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Restrict mining, oil drilling, and other mineral removals. **(N=1310)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	8.10	8.73	8.83	8.77	10.13
2.	6.72	6.69	4.78	6.26	6.67
3.	15.00	14.05	16.66	15.15	16.18
4.	14.88	16.24	14.40	15.39	15.53
5. Extremely Important	51.58	50.25	52.53	51.11	48.59
8. Don't Know	3.45	3.67	2.53	3.05	2.77
9. Refused	0.26	0.37	0.27	0.29	0.14

OBJ17 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Expand commercial recreation services and development for example, resort lodges, guides services, or outfitters. **(N=1391)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	16.81	17.36	17.81	17.33	15.84
2.	16.92	18.60	16.28	16.56	14.97
3.	29.89	30.85	30.86	30.01	30.61
4.	15.49	13.32	15.24	15.28	16.14
5. Extremely Important	19.15	17.83	18.29	18.94	20.17
8. Don't Know	1.49	1.84	1.33	1.66	2.02
9. Refused	0.25	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.25

OBJ25 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow a diversity of uses such as grazing, recreation, and wildlife habitat. **(N=1437)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	5.19	4.55	6.18	4.97	4.68
2.	5.26	5.68	5.27	5.39	5.61
3.	22.54	21.78	20.45	21.96	21.59
4.	27.14	28.96	27.19	27.36	28.35
5. Extremely Important	36.79	35.75	38.44	37.48	36.61
8. Don't Know	2.65	2.78	1.77	2.40	2.60
9. Refused	0.42	0.48	0.69	0.44	0.56

OBJ26 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Make management decisions concerning the use of forests at the local level rather than at the national level. **(N=1411)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	6.51	6.88	5.99	6.87	7.03
2.	5.02	5.28	4.99	5.43	5.41
3.	21.14	21.56	19.89	20.65	20.12
4.	28.32	28.72	26.80	28.20	26.72
5. Extremely Important	35.88	34.45	40.01	35.84	37.07
8. Don't Know	2.86	2.80	2.06	2.77	3.24
9. Refused	0.27	0.30	0.26	0.23	0.41

OBJ27 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Increase the total number of acres in the National Forest. **(N=1367)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	6.01	6.58	8.27	6.60	6.28
2.	5.33	5.28	5.64	5.34	5.03
3.	16.71	17.21	16.01	16.88	18.34
.	21.62	21.59	21.20	21.51	21.12
5. Extremely Important	44.82	43.70	43.32	44.67	44.10
8. Don't Know	4.87	4.95	4.70	4.45	4.50
9. Refused	0.64	0.70	0.85	0.55	0.64

OBJ28 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allowing a recreation fee that goes back into National Forest management. **(N=1435)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	7.87	8.58	7.08	8.56	8.76
2.	4.96	4.89	4.87	4.95	5.63
3.	23.49	22.47	23.67	23.30	22.72
4.	25.55	26.18	24.70	25.35	25.76
5. Extremely Important	33.76	33.58	36.46	33.87	32.89
8. Don't Know	3.91	3.90	2.57	3.57	3.73
9. Refused	0.46	0.42	0.66	0.40	0.51

OBJ29 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Increase law enforcement. **(N=1420)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	5.06	6.53	6.66	5.81	5.67
2.	6.82	7.82	6.56	7.15	6.08
3.	18.23	19.39	17.61	18.56	18.04
4.	19.80	19.10	20.43	19.61	19.59
5. Extremely Important	48.19	44.74	47.57	46.76	48.19
8. Don't Know	1.78	2.32	1.08	2.00	2.16
9. Refused	0.13	0.14	0.10	0.11	0.28

OBJ30 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow trading of public lands for private lands, for example, to eliminate private holdings within National Forest boundaries, or to acquire unique natural areas. **(N=1420)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	11.65	12.46	12.04	12.02	11.33
2.	8.08	7.55	8.27	7.82	8.39
3.	26.67	26.00	25.27	26.30	26.96
4.	22.14	23.11	22.58	22.35	21.90
5. Extremely Important	23.22	22.55	25.43	23.38	22.89
8. Don't Know	7.50	7.45	5.39	7.32	7.53
9. Refused	0.75	0.87	1.02	0.81	1.00

OBJ31 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Create open areas in the National Forests for certain wildlife species. **(N=1333)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	3.39	3.27	3.17	3.20	3.69
2.	3.12	3.51	2.27	3.24	3.23
3.	15.02	17.68	15.35	16.63	16.38
4.	26.04	24.96	26.91	25.81	25.45
5. Extremely Important	49.75	47.92	49.55	48.71	48.44
8. Don't Know	2.12	2.02	2.08	1.92	2.29
9. Refused	0.57	0.62	0.67	0.50	0.51

- OBJ32** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Manage the forest to increase populations of wildlife for hunting. **(N=1389)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	18.38	18.93	18.68	18.63	16.34
2.	13.33	14.09	11.68	13.58	11.67
3.	22.63	24.49	21.92	22.69	23.49
4.	19.33	17.01	18.87	18.63	18.85
5. Extremely Important	25.05	24.24	27.69	25.26	27.77
8. Don't Know	0.98	0.96	0.91	0.95	1.30
9. Refused	0.31	0.27	0.26	0.27	0.59

- OBJ33** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Manage the forest to provide habitat for wildlife and birds for people to see and photograph.
(N=1324)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	1.04	1.38	1.37	1.17	1.71
2.	2.56	2.09	2.57	2.28	2.17
3.	9.89	10.66	8.63	10.26	10.78
4.	23.45	22.63	21.89	22.71	22.67
5. Extremely Important	61.44	61.54	64.80	62.17	61.36
8. Don't Know	1.54	1.60	0.62	1.34	1.14
9. Refused	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.08	0.18

OBJ34 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Protect old growth forest areas and allowing natural processes to continue into the future.

(N=1383)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	0.88	0.96	0.91	0.87	1.60
2.	1.77	1.86	1.08	1.66	1.88
3.	8.83	8.18	9.24	8.73	8.98
4.	18.64	18.67	18.77	18.46	19.11
5. Extremely Important	67.39	67.59	68.48	67.85	66.17
8. Don't Know	2.43	2.67	1.42	2.31	1.89
9. Refused	0.05	0.06	0.10	0.11	0.38

OBJ35 Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow management activities near streams when they do not harm water quality. **(N=1394)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	4.51	4.34	4.14	4.12	4.30
2.	5.44	5.80	4.98	5.79	5.31
3.	24.46	26.53	26.42	26.28	24.76
4.	25.83	25.70	25.77	25.34	25.37
5. Extremely Important	33.81	31.08	35.31	32.77	35.53
8. Don't Know	5.36	5.92	3.01	5.19	4.12
9. Refused	0.59	0.64	0.37	0.51	0.61

- OBJ36** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Limit the number of people that can use a river at one time to avoid crowding. **(N=1473)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	9.53	7.57	9.45	9.14	9.74
2.	10.32	10.23	10.36	10.10	9.75
3.	25.70	26.62	26.21	25.89	27.35
4.	20.43	19.77	21.21	20.40	18.36
5. Extremely Important	27.67	29.69	26.64	28.75	28.84
8. Don't Know	5.55	5.32	5.20	5.03	5.32
9. Refused	0.79	0.80	0.92	0.70	0.65

- OBJ37** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Use controlled fires on National Forest lands to reduce the threat of wildfires or to improve wildlife habitat conditions. **(N=1369)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	3.36	3.50	4.69	3.50	3.63
2.	2.68	2.46	2.29	2.75	3.64
3.	15.66	17.25	14.59	16.19	14.58
4.	20.86	22.26	17.97	21.41	21.31
5. Extremely Important	53.41	50.33	56.59	52.48	53.22
8. Don't Know	3.78	3.92	3.87	3.45	3.17
9. Refused	0.25	0.28	0	0.22	0.45

- OBJ38** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow commercial leasing of oil and gas rights on National Forest lands. **(N=1405)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	42.89	43.52	43.87	42.21	39.52
2.	15.46	16.44	14.87	16.08	15.99
3.	17.47	17.13	15.80	17.72	19.53
4.	7.41	7.64	8.39	7.63	8.05
5. Extremely Important	11.22	9.96	12.15	11.10	11.64
8. Don't Know	4.92	4.61	4.01	4.64	4.61
9. Refused	0.63	0.70	0.90	0.62	0.67

- OBJ39** Remember the scale is from one to five, with one meaning not at all important and five meaning very important. You are rating how important it is to you that the National Forest in your area

Allow recreational gold prospecting and dredging in streams on National Forest lands.
(N=1414)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Not at all Important	32.43	33.28	33.09	32.54	30.55
2.	16.87	17.59	14.17	17.13	16.25
3.	23.40	21.52	24.27	23.50	24.75
4.	11.03	10.63	10.98	10.42	12.45
5. Extremely Important	12.03	12.61	12.83	12.28	11.74
8. Don't Know	3.75	3.94	4.27	3.71	3.64
9. Refused	0.47	0.42	0.39	0.42	0.61

ENVINTRO

Next, we would like to know how concerned you are with environmental issues in the Southern Appalachian Mountains. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements.

ENVATT2 Land that provides critical homes for plant and animal species should be protected. Do you
(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Strongly agree	70.00	70.80	72.84	70.95	69.30
2. Somewhat agree	24.52	23.90	22.38	23.69	24.05
3. Neither agree nor disagree	1.38	1.33	1.20	1.34	1.86
4. Somewhat disagree, or	1.40	1.40	1.19	1.50	1.73
5. Strongly disagree	1.24	1.09	0.89	1.17	1.33
8. Don't know	0.99	1.00	0.96	0.94	1.44
9. Refused	0.46	0.47	0.53	0.41	0.29

ENVATT5 The Endangered Species Act has not gone far enough and should be strengthened. Do you
(N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Strongly agree	42.72	44.23	43.16	43.61	42.37
2. Somewhat agree	31.79	30.34	31.32	31.05	31.15
3. Neither agree nor disagree	6.36	6.73	6.28	6.64	7.21
4. Somewhat disagree, or	8.10	7.94	8.85	8.22	8.32
5. Strongly disagree	4.21	4.24	4.21	4.15	4.72
8. Don't know	5.87	5.52	5.28	5.46	5.72
9. Refused	0.94	1.00	0.89	0.86	0.52

ENVATT7 It is more important to protect streams for trout and other recreational fishing than for other fish species or aquatic life. Do you **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Strongly agree	24.41	23.58	26.24	24.22	23.13
2. Somewhat agree	25.47	25.24	25.87	25.39	26.47
3. Neither agree nor disagree	11.46	11.67	10.69	11.59	11.23
4. Somewhat disagree, or	22.79	22.94	23.15	22.78	21.99
5. Strongly disagree	11.08	12.08	9.77	11.49	12.54
8. Don't know	4.19	3.92	3.58	3.99	4.07
9. Refused	0.60	0.59	0.71	0.53	0.57

ENVATT12 There should be more controls on tourism and second home development. Do you **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Strongly agree	44.26	45.41	45.92	45.00	43.40
2. Somewhat agree	33.02	33.01	31.78	32.52	32.38
3. Neither agree nor disagree	5.97	5.87	5.89	5.81	6.68
4. Somewhat disagree, or	8.29	7.67	7.87	8.55	8.63
5. Strongly disagree	5.00	4.84	5.20	4.90	4.94
8. Don't know	2.80	2.41	2.78	2.55	3.50
9. Refused	0.66	0.79	0.56	0.67	0.47

ENVATT15 There should be more timber production, mining, and other commercial uses of forests to boost the economy. Do you **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Strongly agree	8.43	7.91	8.77	8.94	10.13
2. Somewhat agree	16.92	16.95	17.06	16.81	18.11
3. Neither agree nor disagree	5.92	6.07	5.39	6.07	6.15
4. Somewhat disagree, or	24.99	25.79	24.28	25.23	24.42
5. Strongly disagree	41.04	40.70	42.08	40.41	37.91
8. Don't know	2.23	2.11	1.84	2.07	2.79
9. Refused	0.47	0.48	0.58	0.46	0.47

RURAL1 Do you or your spouse own rural land of 5 acres or more in the Southern Appalachian Mountains? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	15.76	13.93	16.47	14.69	13.07
2. No	83.53	85.43	82.65	84.48	86.01
8. Don't know	0.67	0.61	0.83	0.80	0.83
9. Refused	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.09

RURAL2A In what county do you own this land? _____

RURAL2B In what state is _____? (N=437)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Alabama	4.94	5.06	0.86	4.66	21.27
2. Washington, DC	0	0	0	0	0
3. Georgia	16.73	24.24	6.04	18.29	16.10
4. Florida	0	0	0	0	1.23
5. Kentucky	4.27	0	3.46	4.03	5.36
6. Maryland	0	0	0	0	0.52
7. Mississippi	0	0	0	0	1.10
8. North Carolina	24.79	22.52	33.31	24.45	14.61
9. Ohio	0	0	0	0	0.68
10. Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	1.20
11. South Carolina	6.29	10.28	10.78	7.81	5.24
12. Tennessee	29.90	36.46	30.72	28.22	17.23
13. Virginia	10.94	1.19	13.42	10.33	8.97
14. West Virginia	2.13	0.25	1.40	2.20	6.51
97. Other	0	0	0	0	0
98. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0
99. Refused	0	0	0	0	0

RURAL3A Are there any other counties? _____

RURAL3B In what state is _____ ? (N=51)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Alabama	0	0	0	0	24.41
2. Washington, DC	0	0	0	0	0
3. Georgia	21.00	25.89	9.88	21.85	18.29
4. Florida	0	0	0	0	0.74
5. Kentucky	3.96	0	1.91	3.80	6.67
6. Maryland	0	0	0	0	0.75
7. Mississippi	0	0	0	0	2.19
8. North Carolina	16.73	18.47	25.88	16.07	8.48
9. Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
10. Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0
11. South Carolina	4.05	7.90	9.90	6.15	3.96
12. Tennessee	43.55	44.46	39.29	41.84	25.74
13. Virginia	7.00	3.28	10.83	6.73	5.68
14. West Virginia	3.71	0	2.31	3.56	3.09
97. Other	0	0	0	0	0
98. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0
99. Refused	0	0	0	0	0

RURAL4A Are there any other counties? _____

RURAL4B In what state is _____ ? (N=4)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Alabama	0	0	0	0	19.84
2. Washington, DC	0	0	0	0	0
3. Georgia	54.89	58.56	0	54.89	27.73
4. Florida	0	0	0	0	0
5. Kentucky	0	0	0	0	4.04
6. Maryland	0	0	0	0	9.10
7. Mississippi	0	0	0	0	0
8. North Carolina	21.47	0	47.59	21.47	10.85
9. Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
10. Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0
11. South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0
12. Tennessee	23.65	41.44	52.41	23.65	11.95
13. Virginia	0	0	0	0	9.16
14. West Virginia	0	0	0	0	7.33
97. Other	0	0	0	0	0
98. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0
99. Refused	0	0	0	0	0

RURAL5A Are there any other counties? _____

RURAL5B In what state is _____ ?(N=1)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Alabama	0	0	0	0	0
2. Washington, DC	0	0	0	0	0
3. Georgia	0	0	0	0	0
4. Florida	0	0	0	0	0
5. Kentucky	0	0	0	0	0
6. Maryland	0	0	0	0	0
7. Mississippi	0	0	0	0	0
8. North Carolina	100.00	0	100.00	100.00	54.21
9. Ohio	0	0	0	0	0
10. Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0
11. South Carolina	0	0	0	0	0
12. Tennessee	0	0	0	0	0
13. Virginia	0	0	0	0	45.79
14. West Virginia	0	0	0	0	0
97. Other	0	0	0	0	0
98. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0
99. Refused	0	0	0	0	0

RURAL6 How many TOTAL acres are there in this land? (N=437)_____

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0.85	1.07	0.86	0.80	1.18
Don't know	7.23	5.92	8.56	7.52	8.30
5	10.18	11.05	8.06	10.34	7.71
6	6.88	7.82	6.79	6.94	5.91
7	4.22	4.30	3.92	4.08	4.33
8	5.02	4.68	5.65	4.85	3.76
9	1.19	0.93	1.21	1.34	1.24
10	5.63	4.71	4.63	5.31	5.81
11-30	24.51	23.29	25.23	24.22	24.60
31-50	11.62	13.68	12.67	11.46	10.19
51-100	12.00	12.30	12.46	11.69	12.32
101-300	7.30	6.43	7.05	7.47	9.50
301-5000	3.38	3.82	2.91	3.97	5.05

DEMOGRAPHICS

FOR STATISTICAL PURPOSES, I NEED TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF.
PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL INFORMATION IS CONFIDENTIAL.

Q560 What is your zip code?

- A. ENTER RESPONSE <go to Q563a>
 -98. Don't know <answer Q559>
 -99. Refused <answer Q559>

Q559 What city do you live in?

- A. Enter Response

Q567 What is your age?

Age >>> (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0.97	0.94	1.06	0.90	0.96
Don't know	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.07
16-20	11.96	12.48	11.90	12.12	12.28
21-30	15.10	15.42	14.75	15.88	16.23
31-40	19.46	19.95	18.07	19.67	19.39
41-50	16.30	15.41	15.69	16.24	16.17
51-60	14.44	14.06	14.81	14.06	13.68
61-70	11.92	11.65	12.61	11.41	11.19
71+	9.82	10.06	11.08	9.69	10.02

Q569 Record sex <ask only if unsure> (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Male	47.64	48.14	48.61	48.22	47.06
2. Female	52.03	51.54	51.22	51.49	52.39
8. Don't know	0.33	0.32	0.18	0.29	0.56
9. Refused	0	0	0	0	0

Q569a Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	3.20	3.34	1.79	3.11	3.52
2. No	95.35	95.75	96.72	95.57	95.28
8. Don't know	1.04	0.57	1.08	0.91	0.76
9. Refused	0.41	0.34	0.42	0.40	0.45

570 What race or races do you consider yourself to be? <respondents may select more than one race>

1st selection (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. White	82.73	79.08	85.78	79.71	74.77
2. Black or African American	11.98	15.60	10.09	15.09	19.60
3. American Indian/ Alaska Native	0.54	0.51	0.43	0.48	0.53
4. Asian	0.99	1.18	0.29	1.06	1.31
5. Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	0.31	0.09	0.43	0.27	0.46
8. Don't know	1.50	1.34	1.39	1.42	1.21
9. Refused	1.96	2.20	1.59	1.97	2.12

Q571b Were you born in the United States? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	96.97	96.49	97.72	96.65	96.73
2. No, but an American citizen born in another country	1.14	1.67	0.93	1.53	1.45
3. No	1.85	1.78	1.28	1.77	1.76
8. Don't know	0	0	0	0	0
9. Refused	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06

Q571b_1 As a child, did you primarily live in the **(N=2604)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Western part of the US (Rockies, Southwest, Pacific Northwest and Great Basin)	4.80	4.34	4.89	5.05	5.18
2. Midwest part of the US or (Great Plains, Prairie, and Corn belt)	7.28	8.33	5.17	7.45	8.32
3. Eastern part of the US	79.92	79.04	83.05	79.60	77.35
6. Grew up out of the country	1.19	1.25	0.58	1.08	1.16
7. Moved around a lot	0.99	1.16	0.83	1.00	0.94
8. Don't know	5.50	5.52	5.21	5.54	6.62
9. Refused	0.32	0.36	0.26	0.28	0.44

Q571c What year did you come to live in the United States? **(N=75)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	1.51	1.46	2.80	1.20	1.75
Don't know	4.63	0.91	6.83	3.69	2.18
1916-1940	1.04	1.00	1.92	0.82	1.67
1941-1950	0.79	0.76	1.46	0.63	1.61
1951-1960	7.57	4.88	11.15	6.03	6.59
1961-1970	13.51	10.26	17.03	11.65	13.39
1971-1980	19.34	16.16	16.40	17.37	20.61
1981-1990	14.20	13.92	12.06	13.35	19.51
1991-2000	28.78	42.33	30.36	38.38	27.72
2001+	8.63	8.33	0	6.87	4.97

Q573 What is the highest degree or level of school that you have completed? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents

	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. 8 th grade or less	8.55	8.55	8.63	8.24	7.31
2. 9 th - 11 th grade	16.38	14.56	16.02	15.42	15.78
3. High school graduate	29.91	28.78	31.86	29.50	30.37
4. Some college, but have not yet graduated	17.23	17.35	16.22	17.29	17.51
5. Associate's degree (AA or AS)	6.28	6.33	7.24	6.52	6.40
6. Bachelor's degree (BA, AB, BS)	13.81	15.76	12.35	14.95	14.61
7. Master's degree	4.33	4.73	4.00	4.46	4.20
8. Professional degree (MD, DDS, DVM, JD)	1.09	1.31	0.98	1.10	1.11
9. Doctorate degree (PhD, EdD)	0.70	0.69	0.70	0.71	0.97
10. Other	1.21	1.45	1.59	1.36	1.23
11. Don't know	0.30	0.29	0.24	0.26	0.18
12. Refused	0.22	0.20	0.17	0.19	0.33

Q574 Are you currently employed? (N=2647)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	58.39	59.42	58.02	59.46	59.77
2. No	41.44	40.35	41.70	40.35	40.03
8. Don't know	0	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.07
9. Refused	0.16	0.18	0.23	0.14	0.14

WEEKWORK

How many weeks per year do you work, including paid vacations? (N=1681)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0.16	0.17	0.08	0.14	0.23
Don't know	6.46	6.49	7.53	6.67	6.21
1-10	1.42	1.33	1.20	1.32	1.01
11-20	0.31	0.48	0.27	0.38	0.45
21-30	1.50	1.35	1.88	1.52	1.70
31-40	4.30	3.76	3.91	3.95	5.14
41-50	15.20	16.77	13.86	15.79	14.81
51-52	70.65	69.65	71.28	70.24	70.45

Q575a How many hours per week do you work? (N=1681)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
Refused	0.16	0.17	0.08	0.14	0.13
Don't know	2.72	2.13	2.61	2.55	2.76
1-10	2.65	3.06	2.60	2.77	2.86
11-20	5.36	5.46	5.62	5.39	5.78
21-30	7.24	7.28	5.99	6.93	7.12
31-40	51.18	50.14	52.57	50.89	50.89
41-50	20.74	20.33	21.29	20.55	18.79
51-60	7.81	8.65	7.21	8.10	8.27
61-160	2.15	2.79	2.04	2.68	3.41

Q576 Which describes you?Retired (**N=1301**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	40.69	40.87	43.68	40.25	39.24
2. No	58.11	57.94	54.88	58.60	60.03
8. Don't know	0.56	0.61	0.54	0.57	0.36
9. Refused	0.64	0.58	0.89	0.58	0.37

Q577 Student (**N=1301**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	24.72	24.71	24.49	25.15	25.24
2. No	74.58	74.66	74.59	74.22	74.34
8. Don't know	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.05
9. Refused	0.64	0.58	0.89	0.58	0.37

Q578 Full-time homemaker (**N=1301**)

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	36.32	35.52	36.47	36.35	36.66
2. No	63.03	64.06	62.81	63.06	62.64
8. Don't know	0.31	0.16	0.23	0.27	0.45
9. Refused	0.35	0.26	0.49	0.31	0.24

DEMORG Are you a member of an organization whose main interest wildland recreation or environmental issues? **(N=2647)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. Yes	9.41	9.91	10.41	9.86	10.29
2. No	89.82	89.40	88.96	89.46	89.06
8. Don't know	0.41	0.37	0.37	0.36	0.38
9. Refused	0.36	0.32	0.26	0.32	0.27

Q593B Finally, remembering that all information is confidential, counting all sources, such as wages, salaries, dividends, rents, royalties, etc., in what range was your annual TOTAL FAMILY income before taxes: **(N=2169)**

Percentage of Number of Respondents					
	Cherokee	Nantahala	Pisgah	Sub-Region	Region
1. \$25,000 or less	22.50	20.55	23.65	22.05	22.83
2. \$25,000 to \$49,999	25.58	25.51	26.62	25.49	25.70
3. \$50,000 to \$74,999	16.41	16.42	16.39	16.79	16.29
4. \$75,000 to \$99,999	7.09	7.42	5.83	7.11	6.93
5. \$100,000 to \$149,999	4.99	5.37	3.89	4.93	4.78
6. \$150,000 or more	2.25	2.52	1.87	2.55	2.41
8. Don't know	8.95	9.62	8.42	9.13	10.07
9. Refused	12.22	12.60	13.33	11.96	10.98

Q600 Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.